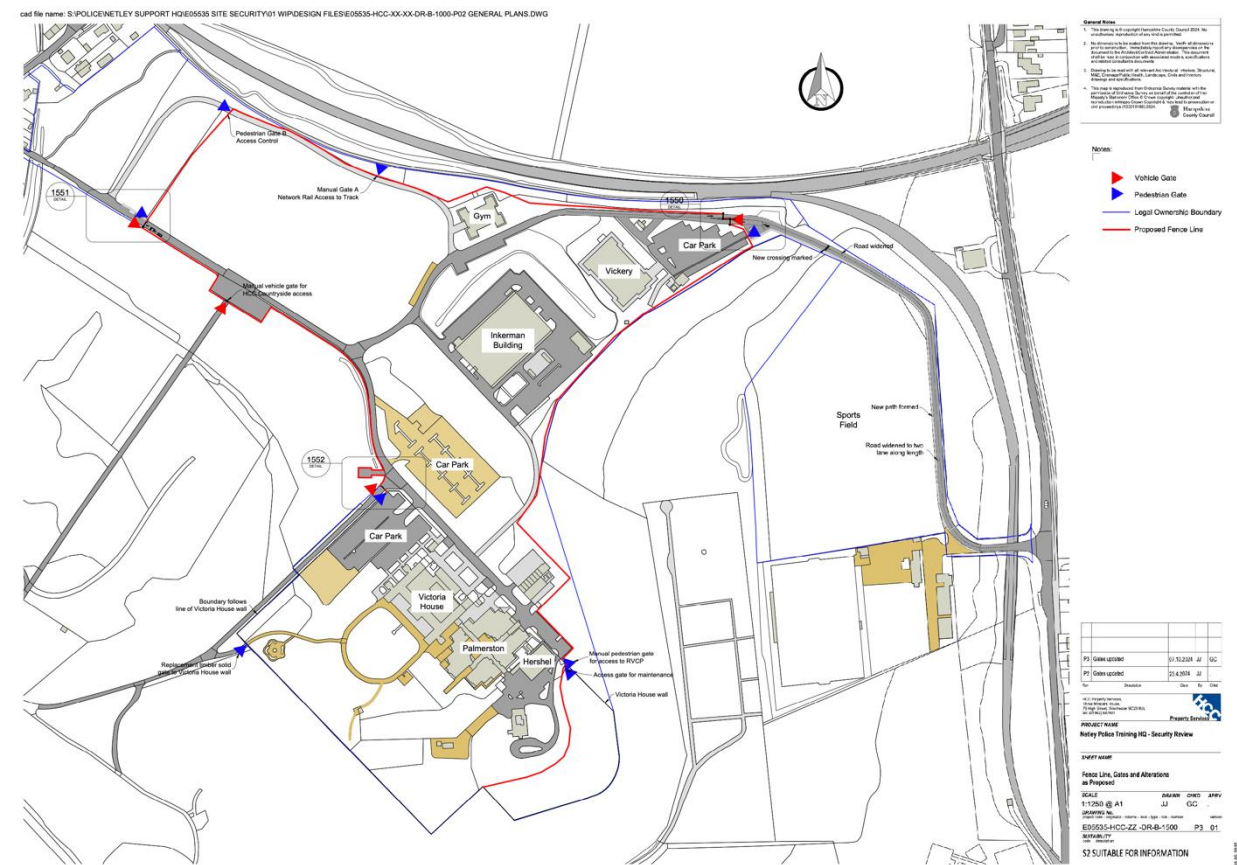
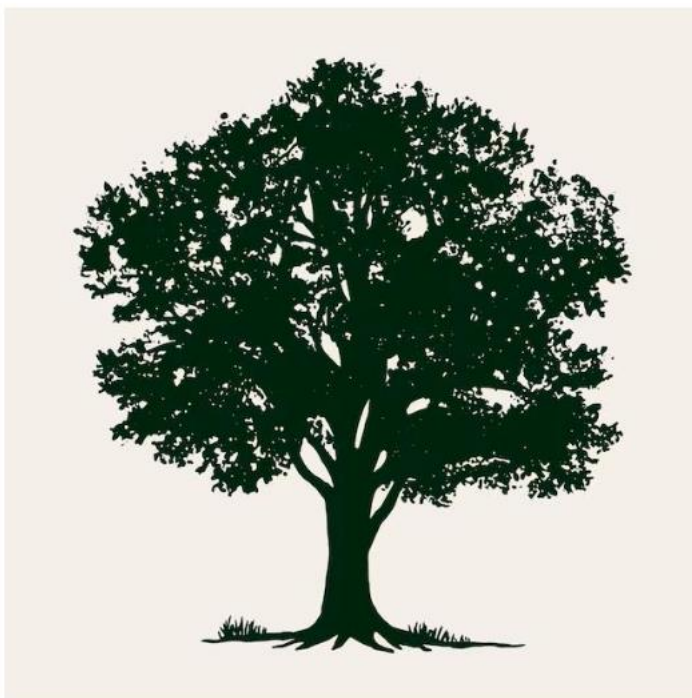


Arboricultural advice note. 25/11/24. Netley Police Training HQ new security fence.	
Client	Jeff Japes. Building Surveyor. Universal Services, HCC Corporate Estate & Partners.
Scope	To offer guidance to inform the best arboricultural outcomes and that will support a forthcoming planning application for the proposal.
Aims	For the proposed route and alignment of the new security fence, seek to minimise impact and harm to the existing adjacent mature trees, whilst enabling the proposed project to reasonably progress within set timescales and budgetary constraints.
	Aerial image showing the heavily wooded site.  Courtesy Google 2024

Fence line, gates and alterations as proposed.



This arb advice note is to be read in conjunction with the tree condition report prepared by HCC, issued 14/06/24.



Tree Condition Report

Netley Police Headquarters

Date: 14.06.2024

Report reference: SS24037

Jim MacNewman

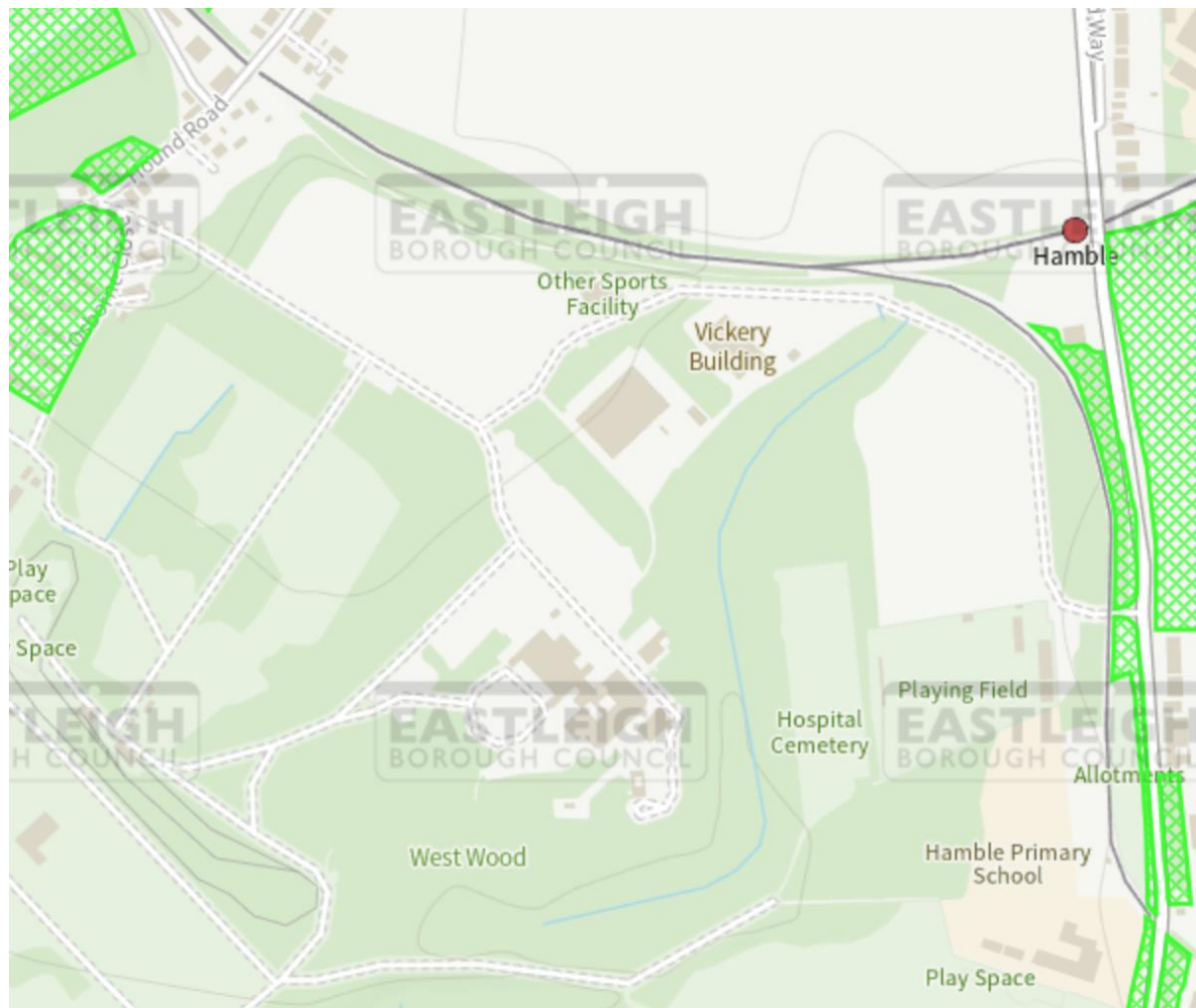
Hampshire Highways Arboriculture

Bishops Waltham Depot, Botley Road, Bishops Waltham, Hampshire SO32 1DR

T: 01962 846643 E: arb@hants.gov.uk

Eastleigh Borough Council public view mapping indicates that there are no trees on the site that are protected by tree preservation orders, and the site does not stand in a Conservation Area. It is assumed that the site and trees that stand on the site are all under the management of the Police and Crime Commissioners Office. Trees on the site boundary with HCC Royal Victoria Country Park will be the management responsibility of Hampshire County Council. Whilst not a constraint in relation to tree management, the site enjoys a Grade II listing as a historic park or garden associated with the former Royal Victoria Military Hospital.

Image of the site taken from EBC WebMap.



The general health and suitability for retention of trees on and near the fence line has been evaluated using the cascade chart for tree quality assessment found in:

BS5837:2012 Trees in relation to design, demolition, and construction – Recommendations:

Table 1 Cascade chart for tree quality assessment

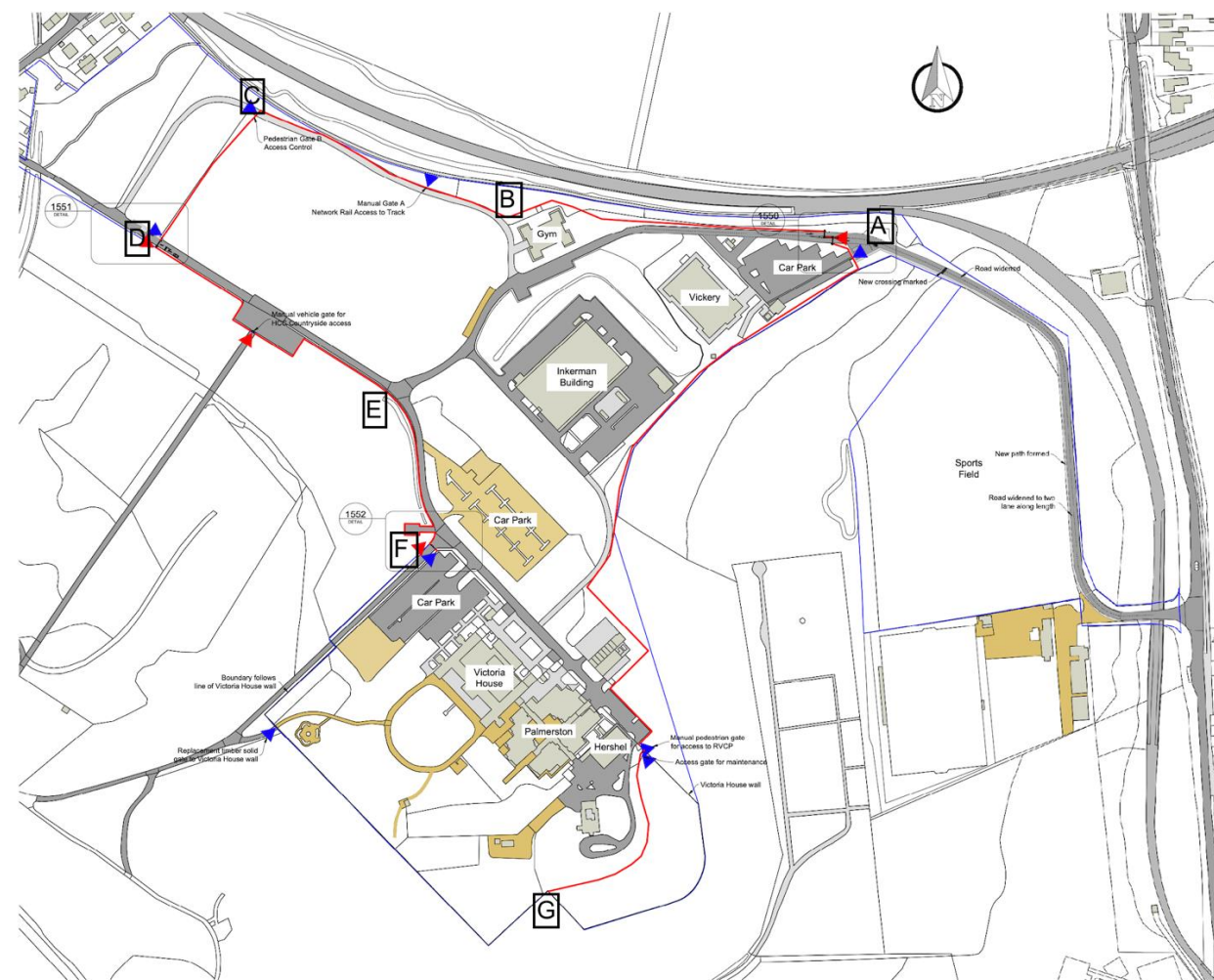
Category and definition	Criteria (including subcategories where appropriate)	Identification on plan
Trees unsuitable for retention (see Note)		
Category U Those in such a condition that they cannot realistically be retained as living trees in the context of the current land use for longer than 10 years	- Trees that have a serious, irremediable, structural defect, such that their early loss is expected due to collapse, including those that will become unviable after removal of other category U trees (e.g. where, for whatever reason, the loss of companion shelter cannot be mitigated by pruning) - Trees that are dead or are showing signs of significant, immediate, and irreversible overall decline - Trees infected with pathogens of significance to the health and/or safety of other trees nearby, or very low quality trees suppressing adjacent trees of better quality <i>NOTE</i> Category U trees can have existing or potential conservation value which it might be desirable to preserve; see 4.5.7.	See Table 2
1 Mainly arboricultural qualities 2 Mainly landscape qualities 3 Mainly cultural values, including conservation		
Trees to be considered for retention		
Category A Trees of high quality with an estimated remaining life expectancy of at least 40 years	Trees that are particularly good examples of their species, especially if rare or unusual; or those that are essential components of groups or formal or semi-formal arboricultural features (e.g. the dominant and/or principal trees within an avenue)	Trees, groups or woodlands of particular visual importance as arboricultural and/or landscape features
Category B Trees of moderate quality with an estimated remaining life expectancy of at least 20 years	Trees that might be included in category A, but are downgraded because of impaired condition (e.g. presence of significant though remediable defects, including unsympathetic past management and storm damage), such that they are unlikely to be suitable for retention for beyond 40 years; or trees lacking the special quality necessary to merit the category A designation	Trees, groups or woodlands of significant conservation, historical, commemorative or other value (e.g. veteran trees or wood-pasture)
Category C Trees of low quality with an estimated remaining life expectancy of at least 10 years, or young trees with a stem diameter below 150 mm	Unremarkable trees of very limited merit or such impaired condition that they do not qualify in higher categories	Trees with material conservation or other cultural value
	Trees present in numbers, usually growing as groups or woodlands, such that they attract a higher collective rating than they might as individuals; or trees occurring as collectives but situated so as to make little visual contribution to the wider locality	Trees with no material conservation or other cultural value
	Trees present in groups or woodlands, but without this conferring on them significantly greater collective landscape value; and/or trees offering low or only temporary/transient landscape benefits	See Table 2

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BRITISH STANDARD

BS 5837:2012

Areas and connecting points around the perimeter of the security fence.



Area A.

Proposed widening of the entrance roadway access, to provide 2 lanes and a manned security barrier function.

Several maturing hybrid poplars stand on the north side of the road, close to the "Hamble rail trail" footpath and the railway line. These are problematic trees to manage and maintain in this location and are displaying early symptoms of decline common to the tree type.

Recommend:

Coppice the poplars and allow them to regrow as multi-stemmed coppice stools. This will make future maintenance via re-coppicing more straightforward and with less impact towards the nearby Hamble Rail Trail and railway line.

This will enable a widening of the road, with likely less impact on the nearby retained trees.

With arboricultural supervision, clear the undergrowth to enable the proposed fence alignment, and some crown lifting of lower branches and shrubs is likely necessary.

No trees of Category A or B are currently proposed to be removed. Some small-diameter Category C trees of poor form, and small diameter shrubby understorey vegetation, will be favoured for removal in all instances. Mitigation planting for any Category A or B trees lost to the development, on a 2:1 basis, will be offered elsewhere on the site.

Section A-B	South of the railway line and Hamble rail trail. Along the red line of the proposed fence alignment. A large poplar stands close to the western corner of the gym building, and a smaller willow stands several metres west of the poplar. The poplar has outgrown this location and shows evidence of large-diameter branch failure. The willow has decay at the base. Both trees have been previously recommended for removal in the June 2024 tree condition report. <u>Recommend:</u> As previously recommended, remove the large poplar and treat or grind the stump to prevent regrowth. Coppice the willow. With arboricultural supervision, clear the undergrowth to enable the proposed fence alignment, and some crown lifting of lower branches and shrubs is likely necessary. No trees of Category A or B are currently proposed to be removed. Some small-diameter Category C trees of poor form, and small diameter shrubby understorey vegetation, will be favoured for removal in all instances. Mitigation planting for any Category A or B trees lost to the development, on a 2:1 basis, will be offered elsewhere on the site.
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Section B-C	Between B and C is the proposed rail-side access gate, adjacent to the existing informal access point from the client side. <u>Recommend:</u> Remove the poor-quality small diameter trees, and undergrowth along the route. With arboricultural supervision, clear the undergrowth to enable the proposed fence alignment, and some crown lifting of lower branches and shrubs is likely necessary. No trees of Category A or B are currently proposed to be removed. Some small-diameter Category C trees of poor form, and small diameter shrubby understorey vegetation, will be favoured for removal in all instances. Mitigation planting for any Category A or B trees lost to the development, on a 2:1 basis, will be offered elsewhere on the site.
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Section C-D	Open recreational field with trim trail apparatus. No real arboricultural issues. <u>Recommend:</u> "Fence in" the trim trail apparatus, retaining it within the Netley complex.
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Section D-E	Along the tarmac driveway. HCC Royal Victoria Country Park is immediately adjacent to the south. Establish precise land ownership and agree accessibility. The route follows the existing post and rail fencing. Remove poor-quality trees and undergrowth along the route, likely to be vegetation growing or arising from the HCC Country Park. A very large mature hybrid black poplar stands on the western edge of the car parking area. Establish the ownership and manage this tree accordingly. A windblown oak tree has fallen across the western section of the car park. Establish ownership of the tree/land on which it stands and manage the tree accordingly. <u>Recommend:</u> With arboricultural supervision, clear the undergrowth to enable the proposed fence alignment, and some crown lifting of lower branches and shrubs is likely necessary. The tree owner should carry out a detailed visual inspection of the black poplar; if this proves the tree to be reasonable to retain, then crown clean the tree to remove dead, dying, rubbing and crossing branches as necessary. If the detailed visual inspection finds the poplar to be unsuitable for retention, the tree owner should arrange to coppice the tree or prune it sufficiently to reduce its likely impact onto the subject site. The tree owner should remove/clear the windblown oak tree as necessary. Both parties to establish and agree on a reasonable width for maintenance of both sides of the fence line, to enable e.g., at least 1m of vegetation clearance to enable ongoing maintenance of the fence line and boundary features. No trees of Category A or B are currently proposed to be removed. Some small-diameter Category C trees of poor form, and small diameter shrubby understorey vegetation, will be favoured for removal in all instances. Mitigation planting for any Category A or B trees lost to the development, on a 2:1 basis, will be offered elsewhere on the site.
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Section E-F	Along the tarmac driveway. The HCC Royal Victoria Country Park is immediately adjacent to the south. Establish precise land ownership and accessibility. The route follows the existing post and rail fencing where present, and then follows the existing well maintained Ionicera hedge which extends to a point adjacent to the western arm of the mini roundabout. The land falls away steeply towards the wet woodland to the southwest, adjacent to the mini-roundabout and car park. Installing the weldmesh fence here will necessitate clearance of the existing vegetation, including holly and holm oak scrub, which will in turn open up the views into the client's site. <u>Recommend:</u> With arboricultural supervision, clear the undergrowth and Ionicera hedge to enable the proposed fence alignment, and some crown lifting of lower branches and shrubs is likely necessary. Establish who owns the Ionicera hedge and depending upon ownership; seek to provide suitable mitigation for the loss of the Ionicera hedge elsewhere on the site or the HCC Country Park. Establish and agree on a reasonable width for maintenance of both sides of the fence line, to enable e.g., at least 1m of vegetation clearance. No trees of Category A or B are currently proposed to be removed. Some small-diameter Category C trees of poor form, and small diameter shrubby understorey vegetation, will be favoured for removal in all instances. Mitigation planting for any Category A or B trees lost to the development, on a 2:1 basis, will be offered elsewhere on the site.
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Section G	Section G to the existing brick wall on the south of the site, near the dog training area. Quite dense undergrowth of mature laurel trees here. Also, some mature and well-established ornamental rhododendrons and very large mature trees, approaching 30m in height, including Wellingtonia, black pine, Monterey pine and beech. The land falls away steeply to the southeast and down towards the existing brick wall boundary with the HCC Country Park. A reasonable 2+m width of vegetation will need to be cleared to enable the alignment of the fence, whilst avoiding harm to the better quality and specimen trees and large shrubs. <u>Recommend:</u> With arboricultural supervision, set out the alignment of the fence to avoid all retained trees that are larger than 300cm dbh. Cut/clear the laurel as necessary to enable the fence installation, and ideally remove the laurel arisings from the site (due to the toxicity of the laurel arisings to other plants etc.). No trees of Category A or B are currently proposed to be removed. Some small-diameter Category C trees of poor form, and small diameter shrubby understorey vegetation, will be favoured for removal in all instances. Mitigation planting for any Category A or B trees lost to the development, on a 2:1 basis, will be offered elsewhere on the site.
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Section G-A	HCC Country Park is immediately adjacent to the east and then south. Establish precise land ownership and accessibility. The land falls away to the east, and numerous desire lines to/from the country park are evident along this section. Some important large and mature trees stand immediately on the HCC Country Park site boundary, e.g., the mature English oak that encroaches over the "portacabin" building at point G, and the mature English oak that stands adjacent to the Inkerman building footpath. <u>Recommend:</u> With arboricultural supervision, remove poor-quality trees and undergrowth along the route. Carefully assess and identify the vegetation that is likely to be on HCC Country Park land and liaise with HCC Country Park team as necessary to enable tree pruning or shrub removal as necessary to install the fence. Establish and agree on a reasonable width for maintenance of both sides of the fence line, to enable e.g., at least 1m of vegetation clearance. Follow the existing chain link fencing where present and be sure to "fence out" any of the HCC Country Park trees. No trees of Category A or B are currently proposed to be removed. Some small-diameter Category C trees of poor form, and small diameter shrubby understorey vegetation, will be favoured for removal in all instances. Mitigation planting for any Category A or B trees lost to the development, on a 2:1 basis, will be offered elsewhere on the site.
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Standards:

All activities on site associated with the fence installation are to be carried out in accordance with **BS5837:2012 Trees in relation to design, demolition and construction - Recommendations.**

All tree works are to be carried out by appropriately qualified arboricultural specialists and in accordance with **British Standard 3998: 2010 Tree Work - Recommendations.**

Land ownership:

The landowner's consent must be obtained to enter third-party land.

Ecological constraints:

Tree works are to be carried out under ecological guidance and avoiding disturbance to wildlife and habitats.

Until we know the full extent of the proposed works, e.g., the road improvement elements and possible turning-head installation at point A; it is difficult to be more precise at this stage.

Method statement for installing the new fence within the RPA of retained trees, observe and follow the manufacturer's instructions at all times.

1. All materials, material storage and handling, plant, equipment and contractors' vehicles are to be kept outside of the rpa of the subject trees. Pedestrian access only is allowed within the rpa's of retained trees.
2. If machinery or vehicle access into the rpa is deemed operationally essential, suitable load-spreading temporary trackways must be installed within the rpa's. These are to be installed as per the manufacturer's recommendations, noting the restrictive weight limits and other governing factors offered by the manufacturer. No tree pruning must occur to install such load-spreading temporary trackways. Seek written professional arboricultural guidance before installing such equipment.
3. Re-use existing post holes where possible, or otherwise locate post holes where they avoid tree roots larger than 25mm in diameter. This may mean adjusting post centres and span widths.
4. Hand dig or hand-auger any new fence post holes.
5. Observe the required overhead clearance for branches etc. Carefully prune low branches up to a diameter to 25mm as necessary to enable installation of the fence. Branches larger than 25mm will need to be pruned/remove by a professional arboriculturalist.
6. Line the sides of the holes with strong polythene, of at least 380 gauge (95 microns). If holes are less than 600mm deep, line the bottom of the hole also.
7. Prepare the concrete post mix as per the manufacturer's instructions, using a bunded tray to contain run-off, and a clean water source.
8. Carefully install the posts and fill with the post-mix avoiding any spills and ensuring no leakage occurs outside the polythene liner.
9. All fencing works must be in accordance with the most current British Standards.
10. Any tree pruning must occur outside the bird nesting season, which is generally accepted to occur between September and the end of February. Ecological due diligence regarding nesting birds and other ecological factors must be addressed by relevant professionals in that field of expertise.
11. The HCC tree officers are available to attend site as necessary during the arboriculturally sensitive phases of this installation.

Contact	HCC arboriculture ArbConsult@hants.gov.uk David Harris. Arboricultural Assistant. david.harris2@hants.gov.uk
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