

Arboricultural Assessment of Oak Lodge, Bridge road, Bursledon, SO31 8AL

Carried out by Matthew Rowden on behalf of Arb Elite Tree Care Ltd for Dave Newell, Capital Homes (Southern) Ltd

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3. Instruction

This report is to inspect the trees on the site germane to a newly established plot that is currently undergoing planning consideration, specifically the trees categorised as G4 (that were never surveyed on previous applications), and tree 13, that is to be bypassed for a newly widened access route to the plot (to be referred to as plot 9). This is in accordance with current guidance BS5837:2012, and to implement control measures and/or design alterations to the proposals where necessary.

This report must also discharge the following conditions:

- i. An arboricultural impact statement demonstrating that the widening of the access will not have any impact on the RPA of the tree to the south east of the existing access (T13).
- ii. Replacement tree planting for all trees felled (and conditioned to be planted as part of original development).

4. Limitations

This survey is valid for 2 years (adhering to the guidance set out in NTSG 2011). I must be kept in direct supervision of the site at all times in regards to all arboricultural matters in order for the findings in this report to remain valid.

The site was inspected using the VTA method as outlined in Mattheck and Breloer 1994. No detailed decay detection has been carried out.

No soil analysis has been carried out: assumptions have been made based on data from the BGS, and the species that grow in that area.

5. Site details

The site is a residential property, located to the North East of Bridge lane in Bursledon, at postcode SO31 8AL. The site consists of 9 plots, 8 of which are under development, with the 9th plot under-going planning review now.

Soil conditions are listed by the British Geological society as “London Clay Formation - Clay, silt and sand. Sedimentary bedrock formed between 56 and 47.8 million years ago during the Palaeogene period.”

6. Legal restrictions

Details have been sought from the Local planning authority as to whether these trees are covered by a tree preservation order or are within a conservation area. The entire site is within a blanket TPO, reference TPO746, served in 2012. The trees scheduled for removal are predominantly dead, and therefore do not fall within these legal restrictions, although one ivy clad lawson cypress and one goat willow within G4 are still alive, but low value. It is likely that these trees are covered by that TPO, based on their age class. These two trees will require planning consent prior to felling.

7. Proposals

The newly established plot (plot 9) is to contain one double storey dwelling, with separate access from Bridge road to the south west access of the site. This is to link with the existing access that already serves Amokura house and White lodge, but with the potential to widen the driveway from 3.8m to 4.8m to allow two cars to pass at any one time.

8. Drawings and documents

Appendix 1: Tree survey schedule.

Appendix 2: Tree location plan

9. Summary

The widening of the access route to allow two cars to pass when entering or exiting can be done with some impacts to tree 13: the route bisects the RPA, but occupies a minimal amount of the RPA, so providing no dig solutions are used, the proposal is perfectly viable. The ground level drops away from the west to the east, meaning that the levels can be raised up relative to T13 without damage to the buttresses or roots.

The trees (G4) on plot 9 are exceptionally low value and predominantly dead. There is no benefit to the site from retaining them.

10. Findings (please see appendix 1 for specific details)

A. Identification of the constraints posed by the trees to developing the site under the current proposal.

G4

- i. These trees overlap the proposed location of plot 9, and are low value specimens.
- ii. Two of these trees are dead and within the far radius of plot 9, posing an unacceptable risk.

T13:

- iii. The RPA of this tree is bisected by the proposed access route to the south west of the tree.

B. Potential impacts of the proposal on the trees

G4:

- i. The impact is the loss of amenity of these trees to the site. Bearing in mind that two of them are dead, one is an ivy clad low quality specimen, and the other two are remarkable goat willows with limited value, these impacts are negligible.

T13

- ii. The driveway access through the RPA of Tree 13 could result in severing the small fibrous roots throughout the top 600mm of soil, which will cause root death, loss of nutrient uptake, stress, and if enough of the functional root mass is killed, the tree may die.
- v. The rooting area of this tree is likely to be in the top 600mm of soil and very susceptible to compaction from vehicular movements. This can result in root death, loss of oxygen in the soil, reduced moisture percolation and diminished nutrient uptake, leading to stress and eventual strain.
- vi. Excavating up to over 500mm deep and installing the access route conventionally is unacceptable in this instance. Instead, ground protection and “no-dig” solutions must be utilised.
- vii. The percentage of occupied RPA is minimal: I foresee no significant impacts.

C. Potential impacts of trees on the current proposals

G4

- i. The trees must be felled, and replaced with suitable specimens. For continuity of cover (similar series that may do slightly better on the soil conditions or have higher amenity), I recommend 2 x *Tsuga heterophylla*, 1x *Cryptomeria japonica*, and 1 x *Salix babylonica*.

T13

- ii. The driveway access must be installed using a no dig solution, such as Cellweb® or another geo cellular membrane capable of dealing with loads of >3.5 tons.
- iii. The tree must also be protected with tree protective fencing. The tree is heavily ivy clad, so I do not consider the application of a log roll up the main stem to be practical.

11. Conclusion:

The group of trees within G4 are exceptionally low value, poor quality specimens, and there is nothing to be gained from retaining them on the site.

The constraints presented by T13 on the site for the new driveway access are not insignificant, but it can be installed with engineering solutions to minimise the impacts.

The issues for the arboricultural method statement to address are:

- i. Tree protective fencing, erection and signage.
- ii. Geo cellular membrane installation for the driveway.

12. Recommendations

- 1. Follow recommendations within appendix 1.



Matthew Rowden *ABC ProfDipArb L6, BTEC NatDipArb L3*

13. References

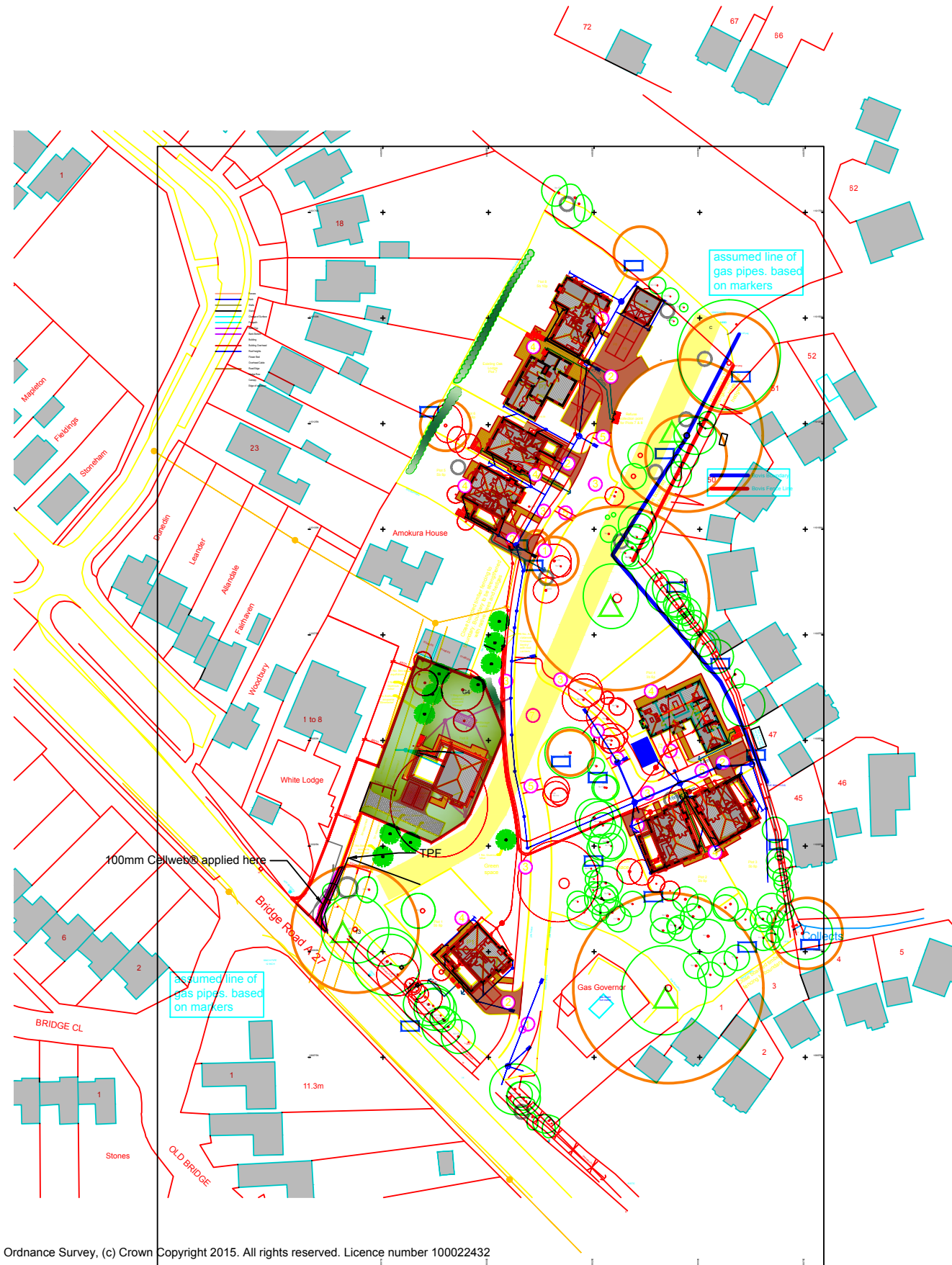
- a. Cutler & Richardson 1981, Kew root survey.
- b. BS3998:2010
- c. Structural Features Related to Tree Crotch Strength by Robert W. Farrell
- d. Tree Pulling Tests of Large Shade Trees in the Genus Acer, Brian Kane and Peggi Clouston
- e. Modern Arboriculture, Alex Shigo
- f. The body language of trees, Dr Claus Mattheck
- g. Plant Biomechanics, Karl Niklas
- h. NTSG Common sense risk management of trees 2011.
- i. BS8454: 2014
- j. How much crown pruning is needed for a specific wind-load reduction? Frank Rinn, 2014

k. BS5837:2012

Appendix 1 - Tree survey schedule

Appendix 2: Tree location plan

Appendix 3: Arboricultural method statement



Legend

Key	
Cat. A Trees	
Cat. B Trees	
Cat. C Trees	
Trees to be felled	
RPA	
TPF	
Ground Protection	

No.	Revision/Issue	Date

Firm Name and Address

 arbelite
Tree Care

Project Name and Address

Oak Lodge, Bridge road, Bursledon
Our ref: ArbE/CH/OLB/B55837/V2 Appendix 2

Project Oak Lodge	Sheet A3
Date 04/04/2025	
Scale	

Tree no. on plan	Species	Ht (M)	Crown spread (M) N E S W	Stem dia. @1.5m (mm) RPA radius (m) RPA area (m2)	Life stage	Estimated remaining contribution in years	General observations Physiological condition- P Structural condition - S	Preliminary management recommendations	BS5837 category
G4	<i>Chamaecyparis lawsonia</i> x 1, <i>Picea abies</i> x 2, <i>Salix caprea</i> x 1.	17 - 18	4m radius	290 290 220 160	M/D	<5	P- Poor S- Poor Both spruce trees are dead, low value, non native specimens. No cavities or habitat niches present within any trees and canopies are not over-sailing any vegetation. Cypress is heavily ivy clad and a poor specimen. Goat willow has minimal value to the area and will cause issues with the development as it matures.	Fell	U
13	<i>Quercus robur</i>	22	9 12 9 10	1100 RPA radius = 16.5 Area = 855	V	>40	P- Fair S- Fair Veteran tree. Ivy clad with some minor deadwood throughout canopy. Proposed driveway access bisects RPA, and will require no dig solutions to enable the access route to be installed. The occupied area of permanent hard surfacing is less than 20%, however.	Remove deadwood. Sever ivy. Install driveway access using 100mm cellweb® membrane. Erect TPF as per TPP.	A2

Survey schedule key

- Tree ID: Refers to numbers as shown in the tree location plan.
- Species: scientific name
- Height (measured in meters)
- Crown spread (measured in meters at the points of North, South, East and West). Where “#” is used as a suffix, the measurements are approximate.
- Stem diameter measured at 1.5m height in mm.
- Life stage: Young (Y) (small trees at a very early stage of their growth), young mature (YM)(larger trees at an early life stage with the potential to still grow considerably larger), Mature (MA)(trees which have reached their maximum size and are self sustaining at the point), Over mature (OM)(trees that are beginning to decline and starting to die back from the tips), Veteran (V)(trees that are rapidly in decline and steadily losing canopy spread), Dead (D)
- Estimated remaining contribution in years: Until such a time as any residual amenity is lost.
- General observations - a visual assessment of the physiological and structural condition of the tree, classed as :Poor, fair, good, dead, decline. Physiologically refers to the vitality and vigour of the tree; Structural refers to the presence of physical defects within the tree's structural makeup. For example, a multi stemmed tree from a lapsed pollard with multiple defects in those unions, but with good vitality and good leaf cover would be classed as physiologically good, but structurally poor.

- Preliminary management recommendations - recommendations to maintain the tree as part of the proposals, or assessing whether its retention is viable, whether it be the suggestion of aerial inspections, remedial pruning, or detailed decay inspections.
- Likelihood of causing damage/ harm: None, low, moderate, high and critical. These mean that respectively, the recommendations are to be actioned with no time scale and within 5 years (green canopy spread), 1 year (blue canopy spread), 6 months (red canopy spread). Trees to be felled with have the canopy spread denoted in a red dotted line.

Appendix 3

Arboricultural Method Statement for Oak Lodge, Bridge road, Bursledon, SO31 8AL

Carried out by Matthew Rowden on behalf of Arb Elite Tree
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1. Responsibilities

It is the responsibility of the site manager to respect the tree protection measures and observe the necessary precautions within and adjacent to them. Bonafide sub-contractors must be inducted by the site manager and the tree protection measures explained and enacted to the letter of this method statement.

As the arboriculturist appointed for this site, I must be present onsite prior to work commencing to ensure that my protection measures have been followed. I must be attend site whenever there are arboriculturally sensitive activities occurring, and must send regular supervision reports to Eastleigh LPA with site meetings arranged if the planning officer or handling team so wish.

In this instance, I believe that I will need to visit site to check the installation of the tree protective fencing, driveway, footings, and then final sign off.

2. COSHH

- a. A cement mixing area will be sited away from the CEZ and if necessary a protective bund installed to prevent contaminated washings or rainwater draining into the CEZ.
- b. These will be positioned on the existing hard standing already constructed.
- c. Fuels or any other chemicals must be stored outside of the construction exclusion zone (CEZ) on the road.

3. Contractor parking and site office

- a. Contractor parking will be on the existing hard surfacing. No revisions to the highway for construction traffic will be necessary at this time.
- b. The site office is already allocated to one of the other plots on the site.

4. Restrictions within Construction exclusion zone

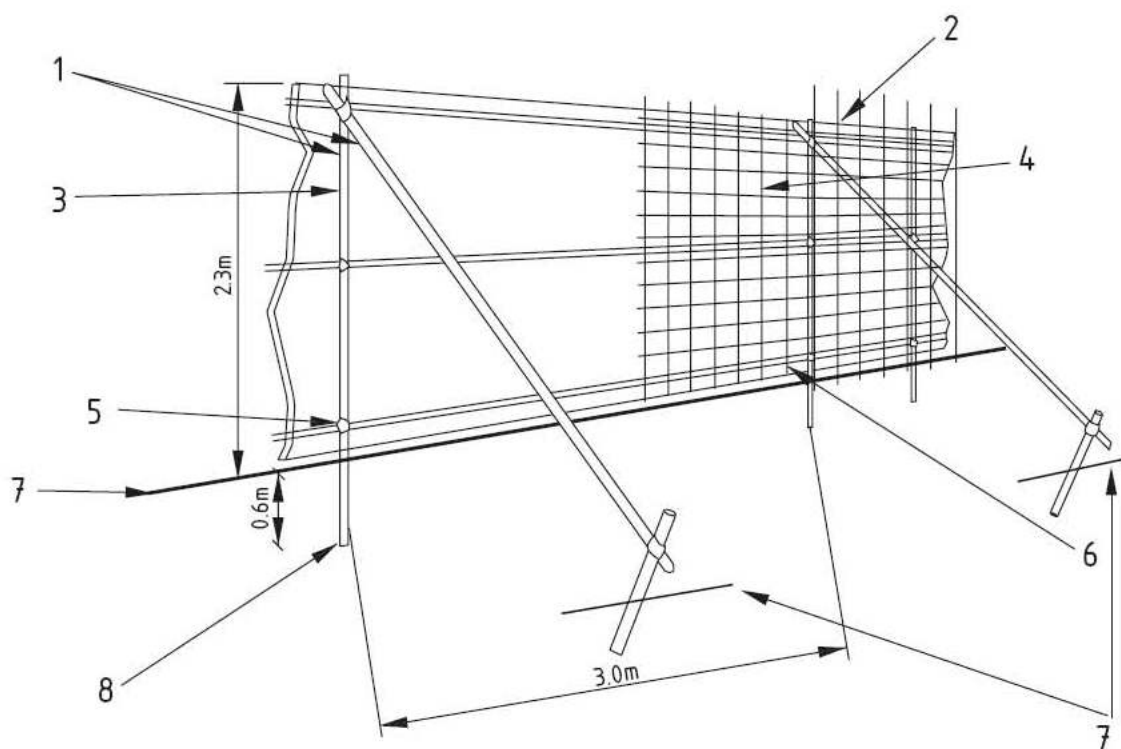
Inside the exclusion area of the CEZ, the following shall apply:

- a. No excavation by any means without arboricultural site supervision.
- b. No hand digging without a written method statement having first been approved by the developer's arboriculturist.
- c. No storage of plant or materials.
- d. No storage or handling of any chemicals.
- e. No vehicular access.
- f. No development activity.

5. Tree Protection Fencing

- a. The Tree Protection Plan (TPP) shows the position of the Tree Protection Fencing (TPF) that encircles the entire building area where the structures are to be built. Vertical banners must be erected and ground protection installed before any materials or machinery are brought onto site and before any demolition, development or stripping of soil commences.
- b. Once erected, barriers and ground protection will be regarded as sacrosanct, and will not be removed or altered without prior agreement of an arboriculturist and approval of the local planning authority.

- c. Barriers must be fit for the purpose of excluding constructive activity, and appropriate to the degree and proximity of work taking place around the retained tree. Attention must be paid to ensuring that barriers remain rigid and complete.
- d. Barriers will consist of a scaffold framework in accordance with Fig.1, comprising a vertical and horizontal framework, well braced to resist impacts, with vertical tubes spaced at a maximum interval of 3m. Onto this, weld mesh panels must be securely fixed with wire or scaffold clamps.
- e. Weld mesh panels on rubber or concrete feet are not resistant to impact and must not be used.
- f. The tree protective fencing must be erected prior to commencing any work on the site, and must remain in situ for the entire duration of the development, until all final work has been completed and the site has been signed off by the site arboriculturist.
- g. All weather notices must be fixed to the barriers with the words: 'Construction exclusion zone - Keep out' or similar (see above image).
- h. It is vital that these protection measures are in place before any construction work happens.



Standard scaffold poles

Uprights to be driven into the ground

Panels secured to uprights with wire ties and where necessary standard scaffold clamps

5 Standard clamps

6 Wire twisted and secured on inside face of fencing to avoid easy dismantling

7 Ground level

6. Driveway installation

- Tree roots are very shallow, the majority occupying the top 600mm deep layer of soil. With this in mind, the driveway cannot be laid in the traditional fashion of excavating to >500mm and compacting hardcore prior to applying the top surface. Instead, the following control measures must be implemented to ensure the tree is not constrained by the proposal and extensive root damage doesn't occur:
- The proposed area of excavation is for industrial machinery (up to a 3.5 ton excavator [a 100mm layer of cell web will only permit loading of 3.5 tons which may constrain the build]).
- This is a "no dig" solution, so there is no need to remove any top soil. Scrape off the top layer of turf and debris using hand tools.
- Install Treetex geotextile membrane up to the boundaries of the proposed access route and to act as a pollution barrier and a separation layer.
- Install a 60mm layer of clean angular stone (type 4/20mm) as a sub base, to level the area where possible. Often sand is used to level out hollows.
- Install 100mm layer of Cellweb® TRP up to the edges of the proposed extension area and working area, banking up the sides of the separation membrane with angular stone. Infill the TRP with clean angular stone, size 4/20mm. Commence roll out within the RPA as a no dig solution, as ground level can be adjusted more flexibly outside of the RPA.
- Overfill by 25mm with clean angular stone, size 4/20mm, then apply top dressing of porous tarmac or other.

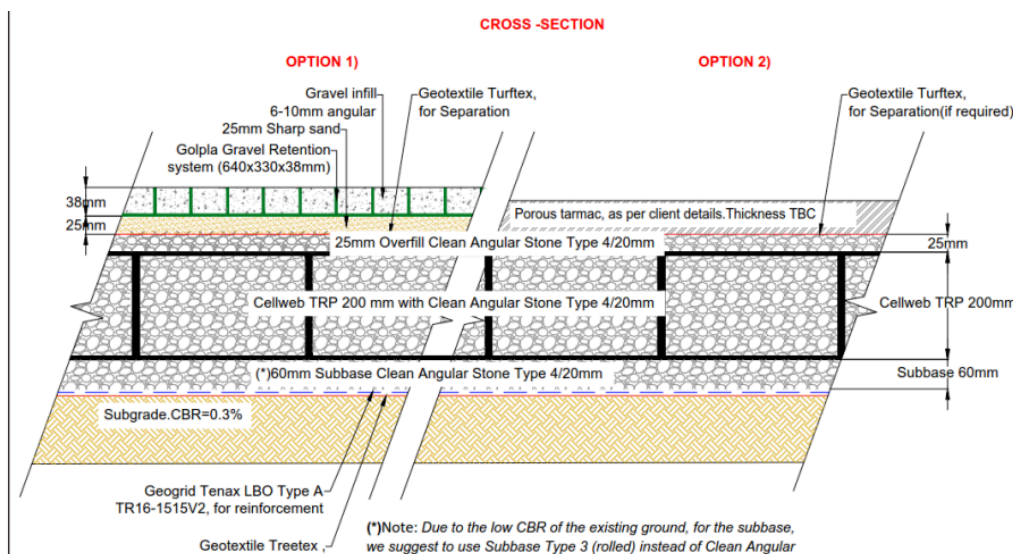


Fig.1

7. Sequence of events

- a. All trees that require felling to facilitate the build must be felled.
- b. All tree protective fencing must be erected as per the tree protection plan. I will then visit site to ensure it is adequate, and submit a supervision statement with photographic evidence to EBC via email and invite the handling team to comment.
- c. The ground protection for the driveway can then be installed. Once installed, I will visit site and submit another supervision statement to EBC.
- d. The erection of plot 9 can begin, with a final sign off and all tree protection measures removed once the build is complete and I have attended site.
- e. The replacement trees may be planted.