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**ARBORICULTURAL IMPLICATIONS ASSESSMENT
FOR
PROPOSED EXTENSIONS & INTERNAL ALTERATIONS**

AT

**BRIDGE FARM HOUSE
CUCKFIELD ROAD
BURGESS HILL
RH15 8RE**

BY

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1. INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 Broad Oak Tree Consultants Ltd. received instructions from Mr & Mrs Collins to undertake an inspection of trees located on and immediately adjacent to the site referred to as Bridge Farm House, Cuckfield Road, Burgess Hill, RH15 8RE. The purpose of the inspection was to produce a base inventory of the tree stock and an Arboricultural Implications Assessment of redevelopment proposals.
- 1.2 The proposals are for the extension of the existing utility and internal alterations of use, together with an infill extension to the rear. Details of the proposals will have been submitted by Gould Baxter Architects.
- 1.3 The trees were inspected in June 2025 by Tim Laddiman, BSc.(Hons) M.I.C.For. M.Arbor.A., Chartered Arboriculturist and Principal Consultant of Broad Oak Tree Consultants Ltd.

2. GENERAL SITE DESCRIPTION

- 2.1 Bridge Farm House is a detached residential dwelling located on the north side of a long surfaced access drive with extensive gardens to the east and west and a pond to the north. On the south side of the drive are shrub/tree beds and a timber framed garage. Further to the west the drive accesses a touring caravan site with an office building, further garaging and storage barns.

3. SCOPE OF TREE SURVEY

- 3.1 All trees and shrubs of 75mm diameter or more at 1.5m above ground level were included in the survey. This included trees immediately adjacent to the site.

4. DATA COLLECTION

- 4.1 All trees were inspected from the ground and no climbing or specialist investigations were undertaken. Each tree was inspected to the requirements of Section 4.4 "Tree Survey" of BS 5837:2012 "Trees in Relation to Design, Demolition and Construction - Recommendations".

- 4.2 The tree survey followed the numbered sequence from T1 to T14 inclusive. Tree numbers, together with BS recommended colour coding of condition, have been added to the Tree Constraints Plan, our drawing no. J67.02/01 in Appendix 2. This drawing also includes crown spreads based on four compass points and BS calculated root protection areas.
- 4.3 The following categories of information were obtained for each tree. Separate detailed tree survey sheets are attached in Appendix 1, together with comprehensive explanatory sheets which cover the details of the categories listed below.
- (1) Tree reference number
 - (2) Species
 - (3) Height in metres
 - (4) Stem count
 - (5) Stem diameter or equivalent in millimetres
 - (6) Branch spread in metres
 - (7) Age class
 - (8) Height of crown clearance in metres
 - (9) Physiological condition
 - (10) Estimated remaining contribution in years
 - (11) Category grading
 - (12) Structural condition
 - (13) Preliminary management recommendations
- 4.4 Within the assessment of physiological condition and remaining contribution, a visual inspection of each tree was undertaken to assess the crown and stem for any weak structures, deadwood, hollows, forks or other defects that might affect its stability and safety. The base of each tree was also visually inspected, together with tapping and probing, to search for signs of root lifting, bark death or decay. Where stems were heavily ivy clad, no full assessment of structural integrity could be undertaken. Clearance of the ivy would be necessary for confirmation of tree condition.

5. RISK ASSESSMENT - INFORMATIVES

- 5.1 Although the potential risk to someone passing beneath a tree when the tree or part of it fails is relatively remote, the risk is present. This increases significantly in areas of consistent and regular usage on a year round basis, such as footpaths, gardens and roadways. Where static structures exist, the risks become constant and an assessment is made as to whether complete or partial failure of a tree could potentially cause physical damage to such structures.
- 5.2 Within the scope of any tree survey it is a fact that not all risks of stem or crown failure can be covered, particularly in relation to freak occurrences of weather when even healthy trees can suffer stem snap or windblow. There is also a well known propensity for mature trees to occasionally shed limbs for no discernible reason, even on calm days. Although relatively rare, limbs may occasionally be shed and this should be acknowledged as a risk that cannot entirely be mitigated.

6. RESULTS OF TREE INSPECTIONS

- 6.1 A total of 14 individual trees were inspected, ranging from a young Birch (T8) planted in the last five years, through to mature Western Red Cedars (T12-T14) of up to 70 years of age.
- 6.2 All of the trees present represent various past landscaping schemes with a range of dimensions, ages and species. All of the trees have had past maintenance, ranging from crown raising to heavy reduction.
- 6.3 Tree health varies with several of the older Western Red Cedars showing signs of slight crown thinning and decline, common in older examples due to water stress and past surgeries. Most of the younger trees are in a good condition with considerable future growth potential.
- 6.4 Of the trees inspected, the following is a breakdown of the various numbers of trees and groups in each BS Category.

BS Category	Tree No.	Sub Total
A	-	-
B	T4, T5, T10, T11	4
C	T1, T2, T3, T6, T7, T8, T9, T12, T13, T14	10
U	-	-
	TOTAL	14

6.5 *Interpretation of table*

- Category A** Retention most desirable. Of high quality and value and in such a condition as to be able to make a substantial contribution (a minimum of 40 years is suggested).
- Category B** Retention desirable. Of moderate quality and value and in such a condition as to make a significant contribution (a minimum of 20 years is suggested).
- Category C** Could be retained – of low quality and value. Poor crown form, heavily asymmetric, large numbers of similar species/size. Currently in adequate condition to remain until new planting could be established (a minimum of 10 years is suggested) or young trees with a stem diameter below 150mm.
- Category U** Trees for removal. Dead/dying/dangerous trees due to structural defects, fungal decay or root plate uplift. Those in such a condition that any existing value would be lost within 10 years and which should, in the current context, be removed for reasons of sound arboricultural management.

7. BS CALCULATED ROOT PROTECTION AREAS (RPAs)

- 7.1 To provide an indication of the critical areas of root plate necessary for tree survival and longevity, BS 5837:2012 requires the calculation of RPAs for trees in the BS Categories A, B and C. Calculations are not made for Category U trees which will require removal on safety grounds within 10 years.
- 7.2 The table below has been calculated using the measured stem diameters and the formula as described in Section 4.6 in BS 5837:2012. These are represented as basic circles on the Tree Constraints Plan. Where buildings, walls, services and hard surfacing exist within the indicated RPAs it is likely that the architecture of root systems will have been affected. Foundations to walls and buildings can completely obstruct root development, depending on their depth and the nature of the underlying soils. In the absence of detailed site investigations the indicated RPA circles should be used for guidance only within any redevelopment proposals.

Tree no.	Species	BS Category	Stem diameter or calculated equivalent (mm.)	BS calc. radial equiv. root protection area (m.)	BS calc. total RPA (m ²)
T1	Field Maple	C2	270	3.2	32
T2	Ornamental Cherry	C2	120	1.4	6
T3	Holly	C2	160	1.9	11
T4	Ornamental Cherry	B2	330	4	50
T5	Sweet Gum	B2	220	2.6	21
T6	Western Red Cedar	C2	530	6.4	129
T7	Bay	C2	420	5	79
T8	Jacquemontii Birch	C2	75	0.9	3
T9	Norway Maple	C2	150	1.8	10
T10	Norway Maple	B2	240	2.9	26
T11	Weeping Willow	B2	390	4.7	69
T12	Western Red Cedar	C1	900	10.8	366
T13	Western Red Cedar	C2	570	6.8	145
T14	Western Red Cedar	C2	710	8.5	227

ARBORICULTURAL IMPLICATIONS ASSESSMENT

8. DEVELOPMENT PROPOSALS

- 8.1 The proposals are for the extension of the existing utility and internal alterations of use, together with an infill extension to the rear. Details of the proposals will have been submitted by Gould Baxter Architects.
- 8.2 The supplied Gould Baxter Architects proposed site layout has been used as the base for the Broad Oak Tree Consultants Ltd. Tree Protection Plan, drawing no. J67.02/02 in Appendix 3. This indicates measures to protect trees in accordance with BS 5837:2012 requirements.

9. POTENTIAL IMPACT OF PROPOSALS ON TREES

- 9.1 No trees require removal or surgery for the works to proceed.
- 9.2 A short section of low, young Western Red Cedar hedge will require removal but this is too small for inclusion in a BS 5837:2012 tree survey and is of no planning relevance.
- 9.3 The proposals will not impact on any tree RPAs.
- 9.4 Provided the trees are appropriately protected during the works there are no grounds for a refusal based on arboricultural matters.

10. TREE PROTECTION FENCING

10.1 *Location of fencing*

- 10.1.1 The Tree Protection Plan indicates the proposed location of protective fencing based on the calculated tree protection areas and space available.

10.2 *Design of fencing*

- 10.2.1 Protective fencing to comprise weldmesh panels securely fixed together with scaffold ties set within rubber/plastic feet to form a continuous barrier. Feet to be pinned to the ground with road pins/short scaffold bars or panel joins back braced. Waterproof signs to be attached to every 5th panel declaring "TREE ROOT PROTECTION ZONE – KEEP OUT" or similar wording. Fencing to be constructed in accordance with Fig 3 of Section 6.2 of BS5837:2012.
- 10.2.2 Examples of the fencing specification and signage required are included in Appendix 4.

10.3 *Timing of fencing*

- 10.3.1 Protective fencing is to be erected prior to commencement of site works and remain in place until completion of construction. The location and suitability of the fencing can be confirmed to the local authority by an arboricultural consultant prior to commencement of construction. Any tree felling will need to be undertaken prior to fence installation to minimise risks to operatives. All tree surgeons' vehicles will be kept outside the indicated protection zones utilising existing areas of hard standing and drive.

10.4 *Additional precautions*

- 10.4.1 Potentially injurious materials such as fuels, oils, chemicals and cement will be stored at least 20m from any stem, or in a bunded storage vessel. No fires will be lit within 5m of the drip line of any retained tree. No level changes will occur, either raising or lowering within the protected areas. A list of these additional precautions are included on the Tree Protection Plan.

11. SITE OPERATIONS AND MATERIALS STORAGE

- 11.1 Details of site zoning cannot be specified by an Arboriculturalist as these are commonly determined by contractors on the basis of Health & Safety Assessments. However, the robust protective fencing will define the remaining site space available for storage and operations.
- 11.2 The various areas of existing hard surfacing and parking provide ample storage space for machinery, materials and temporary welfare units.
- 11.3 As this is a small scale development the requirement for storage space is minimal and materials will be delivered on an “as and when” needed basis in appropriate quantities for the space available.

12. SERVICES/DRAINAGE/SOAKAWAYS

- 12.1 Based on the supplied layout, any new services, drainage or soakaway alignments should be located outside root protection areas with links in to the existing building and existing drainage system. If incursion into the protective areas of retained trees is unavoidable, then the routing should be obtained either by hand tool excavation or air spade, supervised by an arboricultural consultant. Any works within the protective areas will need to be undertaken to the requirements of NJUG Volume 4 “Guidelines for the Planning, Installation and Maintenance of Utility Apparatus in Proximity to Trees”.

13. ARBORICULTURAL METHOD STATEMENT

- 13.1 A separate Arboricultural Method Statement is not considered necessary for this site as there is a very low risk of damage occurring to trees or their root systems. Details of the protective fencing specification, timing and location are indicated on the Tree Protection Plan, which can be referred to in a specifically worded condition.

14. SUMMARY

- 14.1 The proposals will not require any tree removal or tree surgery works and will not impact on any tree RPAs.
- 14.2 There are no grounds for a refusal based on arboricultural matters.

- 14.3 Robust tree protection fencing is proposed, in accordance with BS 5837:2012 requirements.
- 14.4 The Tree Protection Plan can be referred to as an approved drawing or in a specifically worded Condition to ensure that the retained trees are appropriately protected during the construction works.

Tim Laddiman
Chartered Arboriculturist
Broad Oak Tree Consultants Ltd.

APPENDIX 1

TREE SURVEY EXPLANATORY SHEET

Height	in metres (estimated where ground uneven or access restricted).
Stem count	number of stems
Stem diameter	in mm. at 1.5m. above ground level.
Branch spread	radial spread in metres at four main compass points (estimated where no access).
Age class	Young - Y Semi Mature - SM Mature - M Over mature - OM Veteran - V
Height of crown clearance	in metres. Normally range of heights of outer branches above ground level, e.g. 2-4m.
Physiological condition	Good, Fair, Poor, Dead, Variable
Estimated remaining contribution	in years e.g. less than 10, 10-20, 20-40, 40+
Category grading	see attached sheet
Structural condition	comment on presence of defects, decay, crown form, past management, deadwood, other features worthy of note. N.B. If trees are ivy clad, no full structural assessment will have been possible.
Preliminary management recommendations	requirements of further investigations, works necessary to alleviate potential hazards based on current setting and levels of access. NB: Works that may be necessary in relation to development are not included here

CASCADE CHART FOR TREE QUALITY ASSESSMENT

TREES FOR REMOVAL				
Category and definition	Criteria			Identification on plan
Category U Those in such a condition that any existing value would be lost within 10 years and which should, in the current context, be removed for reasons of sound arboricultural management	• 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 R category trees (i.e. 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 (e.g. Dutch elm disease), or very low quality trees suppressing adjacent trees of better quality NOTE Habitat reinstatement may be appropriate (e.g. R category tree used as a bat roost: installation of bat box in nearby tree.)			DARK RED
TREES TO BE CONSIDERED FOR RETENTION				
Category and definition	Criteria - Subcategories			Identification on plan
	1. Mainly arboricultural values	2. Mainly landscape values	3. Mainly cultural values, including conservation	
Category A Those of high quality and value: in such a condition as to be able to make a substantial construction (a minimum of 40 years is suggested)	Trees that are particularly good examples of their species, especially if rare or unusual, or essential components of groups, or of formal or semi-formal arboricultural features (e.g. the dominant and/or principal trees within an avenue)	Trees, groups or woodlands which provide a definite screening or softening effect to the locality in relation to views into or out of the site, or those of particular visual importance (e.g. avenues or other arboricultural features assessed as groups)	Trees, groups or woodlands of significant conservation, historical, commemorative or other value (e.g. veteran trees or wood-pasture)	LIGHT GREEN
Category B Those of moderate quality and value: those in such a condition as to make a significant contribution (a minimum of 20 years is suggested)	Trees that might be included in the high category, but are downgraded because of impaired condition (e.g. presence of remediable defects including unsympathetic past management and minor storm damage)	Trees present in numbers, usually as groups or woodland, such that they form distinct landscape features, thereby attracting a higher collective rating than they might as individuals but which are not, individually, essential components of formal or semi-formal arboricultural features (e.g. trees of moderate quality within an avenue that includes better, A category specimens), or trees situated mainly internally to the site, therefore individually having little visual impact on the wider locality	Trees with clearly identifiable conservation or other cultural benefits	MID BLUE
Category C Those of low quality and value: currently in adequate condition to remain until new planting could be established (a minimum of 10 years is suggested), or young trees with a stem diameter below 150mm.	Trees not qualifying in higher categories	Trees present in groups or woodland, but without this conferring on them significantly greater landscape value, and/or trees offering low or only temporary screening benefit.	Trees with very limited conservation or other cultural benefits	GREY
NOTE Whilst C category trees will usually not be retained where they would impose a significant constraint on development, young trees with a stem diameter of less than 150mm should be considered for relocation				

Tree ref. no.	Species	Height (m.)	Stem Count	Stem diameter or equivalent (mm.)	Branch spread (m.)				Age class	Ht. of crown clearance (m.)	Physiological condition	Estimated remaining contribution (years)	Category grading	Structural condition and Notes	Preliminary management recommendations
					N	E	S	W							
T1	Field Maple	5	1	270	2.5	3.5	3.5	4	SM	1.8+	Good	40+	C2	Multi-stemmed from 1.8m. Regularly reduced	
T2	Ornamental Cherry	2.5	Multi	120	1.5	2	2.5	2	Y	1.3+	Good	40+	C2	Multi-stemmed at 1.3m	
T3	Holly	3.5	1	160	1.5	1.5	1	1.5	Y	1.7+	Good	40+	C2	Crown raised and regularly pruned. Lean to N	
T4	Ornamental Cherry	8	3	330	4	5	2	4	M	2+	Good	20-40	B2	Three stems <1.3m	
T5	Sweet Gum	9	1	220	3	2.5	2	3	Y	1.4+	Good	40+	B2		
T6	Western Red Cedar	9	1	530	3	4.5	3.5	3	M	2+	Fair	20-40	C2	Lean to E. Pollarded in past	
T7	Bay	3.5	Multi	420	2.5	2.5	2	3.5	M	1.8+	Good	40+	C2	Crown raised and shaped	
T8	Jacquemontii Birch	5	1	75	2	2.5	2.5	1.5	Y	1+	Good	40+	C2	Staked tree	
T9	Norway Maple	5.5	1	150	3	3	2.5	2.5	Y	2.8+	Fair	20-40	C2	Slight crown thinning	
T10	Norway Maple	8.5	1	240	3	3	3	3.5	Y	2.3+	Good	40+	B2	Crown raised	
T11	Weeping Willow	10	1	390	4.5	4.5	4.5	3.5	SM	1.8+	Good	40+	B2	Crown raised and reduced in past	
T12	Western Red Cedar	10	1	900	3	3.5	3	4.5	M	2+	Fair	10-20	C1	Multi-stemmed <2m. Heavily reduced in past. Slight crown thinning	
T13	Western Red Cedar	12	1	570	4.5	2.5	2.5	3	M	2.2+	Fair	20-40	C2	Heavily reduced in past	
T14	Western Red Cedar	12	1	710	3.5	5	3	1	M	2.6+	Fair	10-20	C2	Crowded. Slight lean to NE. Heavily reduced in past. Lower buttress wounding	

APPENDIX 2

BRIDGE FARM HOUSE
CUCKFIELD ROAD
BURGESS HILL
RH15 8RE

TREE CONSTRAINTS PLAN

T1 - T14 Tree numbers

BS Category of Condition

BS Condition A

BS Condition B

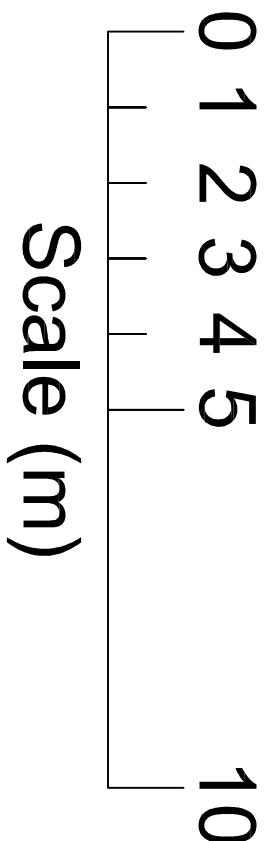
BS Condition C

BS Condition U

Crown spread

BS Calculated root protection areas

The root protection areas have been calculated using the measured stem diameter of each tree and are shown in Section 4.6 in BS5837:2012. There are represented by the basic circle on the Tree Protection Diagram (TPD) and the tree services and hard standing exist within the indicated RPA. It is likely that the trees will be affected by the proposed development and the underlying work. In the absence of a detailed RPA assessment, the RPA areas should be used for indicated only within any redevelopment proposals.



APPENDIX 3

TREE PROTECTION PLAN

T1 - T14 Tree numbers

BS Category of Condition

0 BS Condition A

T4 BS Condition B

T1 BS Condition C

0 BS Condition U

Crown spread

BS Calculated root protection areas

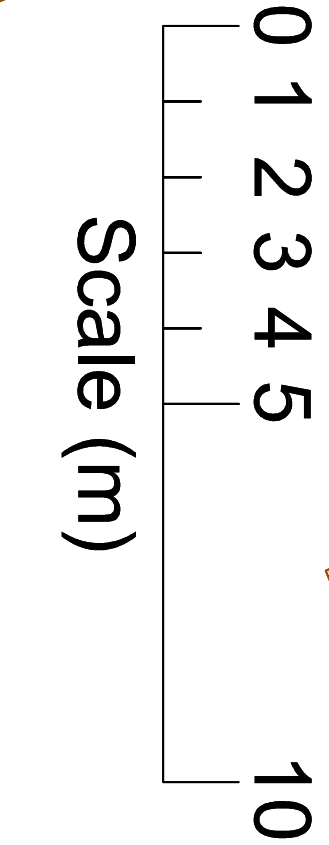
Tree to be removed for safety/short lifespan

Tree to be removed for development

Protective fencing location

Ground protection

TREE PROTECTION INFORMATION
 Protective fencing and ground protection measures shall be installed at locations specified prior to commencement of any demolition works.
 Protective fencing to comprise 1.8m high panels of 100mm rubber/plastic feet to form a continuous barrier. Feet to be pinned to the ground using 100mm x 100mm x 100mm panel joints back breasted. Waterproof signs to be attached to every 5th panel.
 BS Category of Condition
 BS Calculated root protection zones (RPPZ) shall be marked in accordance with fig. 2 or fig. 3 of section 6.2 of BS5837:2012.
 Ground protection measures to comprise a single thickness of 150mm compacted hardcore or 150mm geotextile. For machinery access, interlocking metal/plastic road plates will need to be used.
 Buildings in proximity to protective machinery pulling walls inwards onto the building footprint.
 The fenced protection zones around related trees, hedges and shrubbery and none of the following are to occur within these areas:
 - Storage or disposal of any soil, building materials, machinery, fuel or waste residues of any description.
 - Siting of any temporary structures of any description including site offices/sales buildings, temporary car parking facilities, portacabins, storage containers or temporary site standing areas.
 - Excavations, soil/stump stripping, or any other groundworks or alterations to the existing natural surface/ground conditions of any other description.
 - Location of temporary drainage, water supplies or any other temporary underground services.
 - No use, movement or parking of any machinery or vehicles of any description.
 - Additionally, no fires shall be lit within 20m of the trunks of any trees or the canopy line of any hedgerow to be retained.
 All services to be installed to the satisfaction of the relevant authority.
 "Guidelines for the Planning, Installation and Maintenance of Utility Apparatus in Proximity to Trees". Any areas to either be boremined or any hand excavation to be supervised by the Arboricultural Consultant.



Foundations restricting root presence

NO CONTRACTOR ACCESS

NO RISK TO TREES AND SHRUBS IN BORDERS. OUTSIDE CONTRACTOR OPERATING AREAS AND MONITORED BY CLIENTS LIVING ON SITE

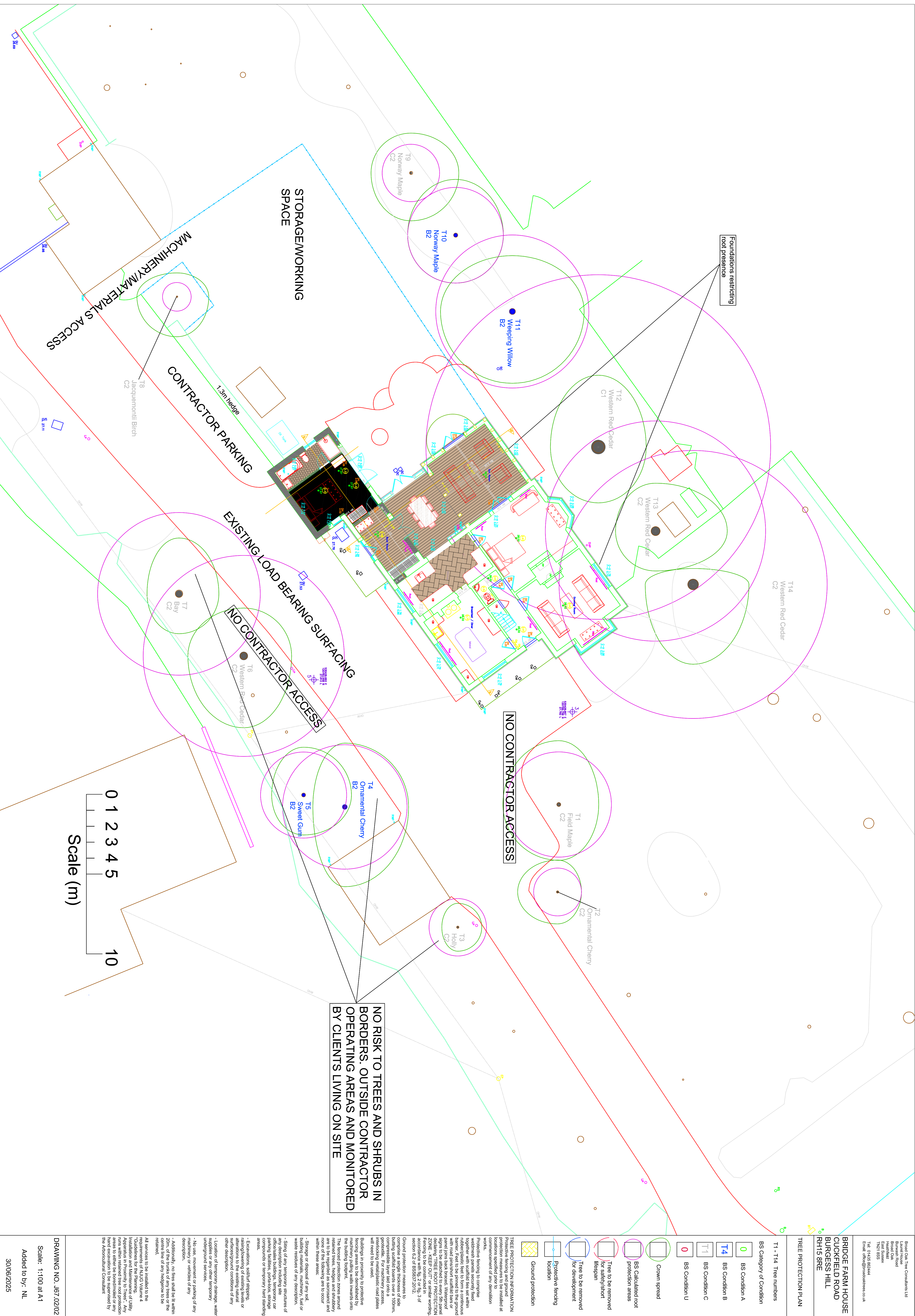
NO CONTRACTOR ACCESS

STORAGE/WORKING SPACE

CONTRACTOR PARKING

T8
Jacquemontii Birch
C2

MACHINERY/MATERIALS ACCESS



APPENDIX 4

BS5837:2012: FENCING SPECIFICATIONS

Figure 2 Default specification for protective barrier

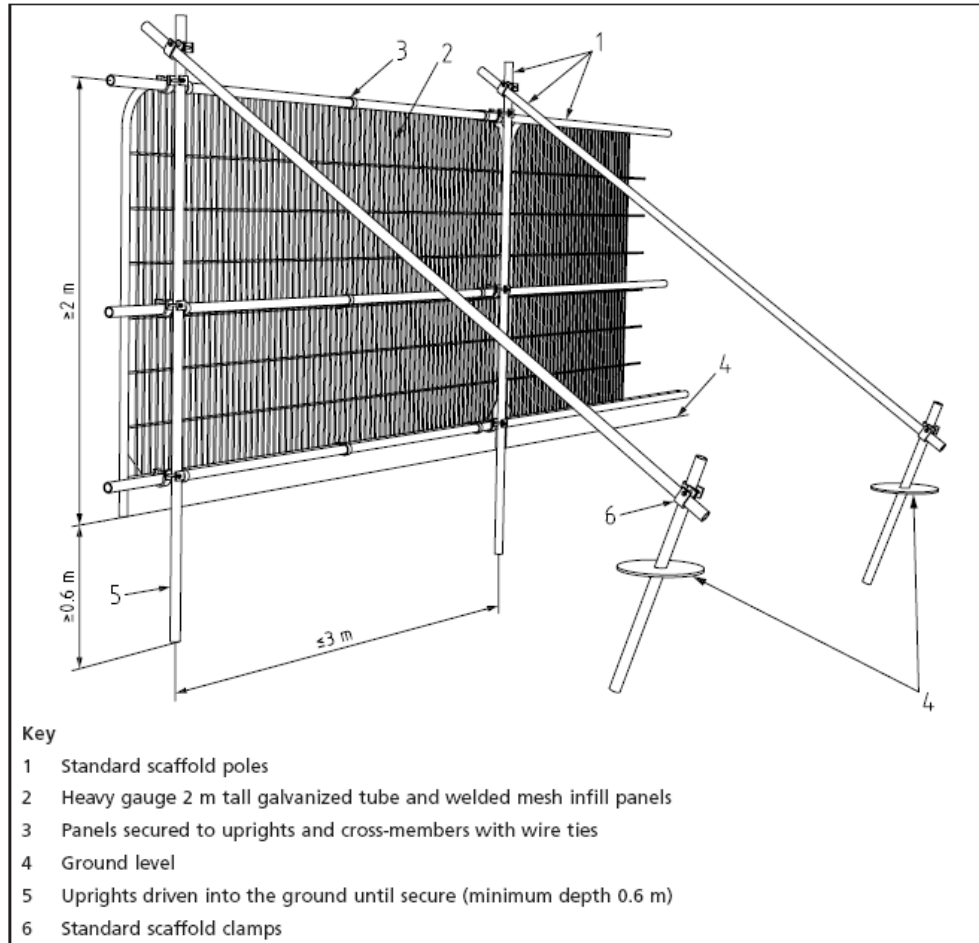
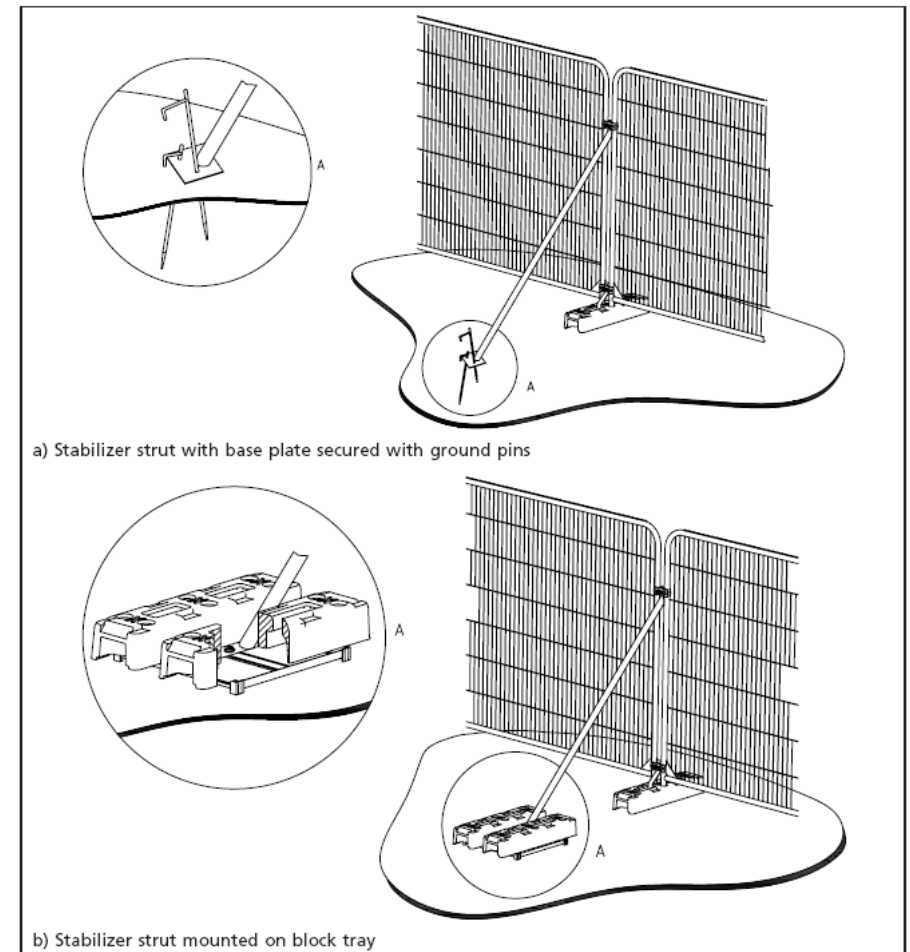


Figure 3 Examples of above-ground stabilizing systems





**PROTECTIVE FENCING.
THIS FENCING MUST BE
MAINTAINED IN ACCORDANCE
WITH THE APPROVED PLANS
AND DRAWINGS FOR THIS
DEVELOPMENT**



**TREE PROTECTION AREA
KEEP OUT!**

(TOWN & COUNTRY PLANNING ACT 1990)
TREES ENCLOSED BY THIS FENCE ARE PROTECTED BY
PLANNING CONDITIONS AND/OR ARE SUBJECTS OF A
TREE PRESERVATION ORDER.
CONTRAVENTION OF A TREE PRESERVATION ORDER MAY
LEAD TO CRIMINAL PROSECUTION
ANY INCURSION INTO THE PROTECTED AREA MUST BE
WITH THE WRITTEN PERMISSION OF THE LOCAL
PLANNING AUTHORITY