

1356 Land to off Floss Meadows, Cleator

Arboricultural Method Statement

The basis for this Arboricultural Method Statement is that disturbance to the root protection areas of retained trees to the boundary of the site shall be avoided with any disturbance, if required, kept to an absolute minimum. At all stages of design, demolition, (site clearance) and construction, consideration shall be given to tree protection, reducing excavation, ground disturbance and soil compaction.

The final site layout design forms part of the planning application and indicates houses away from the perimeter of the site. This tree protection method statement shall detail principles to be employed in offering protection to the retained trees.

The nature of the proposed development site is such that the trees requiring protection are situated on the East and West boundary. In consideration of this, the tree protection fencing creating Construction Exclusion Zones shall be installed in a linear fashion offering protection to the boundary trees as cohesive groups in accordance with the root protection areas.

Prior to site clearance and construction activity being undertaken the tree protection fencing is to be installed adjacent to these East and West boundaries

The recommended tree protection referred to as temporary tree protection fencing due to being installed and maintained for the period of demolition, site clearance and construction. The protection fence being removed post construction and completion.

It is recommended the temporary tree protection fencing to be installed should be Heras type fencing in accordance with that as detailed in British Standard 5837:2012. Heras fencing is a method of temporary fencing intended for use on construction sites. It consists of individual panels approximately 3.5 metres wide and 2 metres high. Each panel consists of metal mesh contained in a metal tubing frame. The feet slot into concrete or synthetic blocks. They are light weight easy to install by hand and clip together by the means of a nut and bolt clasp connecting the metal frames. "A" represents supporting struts, if required.

British Standard 5837:2012 section, 6.2.1.5 states the following:

It should be confirmed by the project arboriculturist that the barriers and ground protection have been correctly set out on site, prior to the commencement of any other operations.

The temporary tree protection fencing should include signage at regular intervals stating the reason for the tree protection fence and that it should not be moved or disturbed. For Example, "CONSTRUCTION EXCLUSION ZONE – NO ACCESS".

The tree protection fencing being checked and maintained by the Site Agent on a weekly basis to ensure its integrity. Any infringements to be rectified immediately.

Ground breaking activities required for the proposed development should be undertaken as sympathetically as possible and avoiding the root protection areas of the retained trees.

In the event excavation works establish the presence of roots an assessment of the roots shall be undertaken. Those less than 25mm diameter can be cleanly cut to allow activities to continue. Any roots greater than 25mm diameter shall be assessed on an individual basis with advice sought from Envirotech. Damage to the structural stability roots of the retained trees should be avoided as this may affect the long term stability of the specimens.

The parking of plant, machinery, equipment, vehicles and the storage of materials and waste should only be undertaken within the construction zone, car parking and lay down areas and existing hard standing within the curtilage of the development area.

Under NO circumstances should any grass areas beyond the construction zone be disturbed or used for the parking of plant, machinery, equipment, vehicles, the storage of materials, waste and disposal of washings.

The tree protection fencing is to remain insitu for the duration of construction. Only on completion of the development is the tree protection fencing to be removed. NO vehicle access to be undertaken within the root protection area for the purpose of tree protection fencing removal.

Should the planning process result in any material design changes. A review and subsequent revision of this arboricultural method statement may be required.

Implementing the recommendations stated in this Arboricultural Method Statement shall ensure the retained tree stock to the site perimeter offers the required tree protection methods necessary for the proposed development. Doing so shall ensure the proposed development does not result in any detrimental consequences for the retained trees.

The arboricultural method statement is a working document. It must be made available to the applicant and site agent. A copy of the arboricultural method statement to be kept on the development site at all times. The arboricultural method statement shall be included in the site induction process with site operatives briefed on the main contents.

Failure to adhere to the correct sequence, manner and timing of operations detailed within this Arboricultural Method Statement may result in damage to the retained tree stock and as a consequence breach planning consent. Retained trees are protected by planning law and damage or tree removal may result in a stop notice or prosecution.

Appendix A – Details of Fence protection

