TREE CONSULTANTS

ARBORICULTURAL METHOD STATEMENT

to BS 5837:2012 at:

31 Mansfield Road, Athersley, Barnsley. S71 3BQ

This document describes how the trees will be protected and managed during the development of this site. It explains how and when the protection measures must be installed and maintained throughout the development.

A copy of this document report must be permanently available on site for the duration of all development activity and should be referenced for practical guidance on how to protect the retained trees at this site.

Prepared for:
White Agus

Date: *September 2024*

Reference: *AWA6106*

Institute of Chartered Foresters
Registered Consultant

Office: 0114 272 1124 Mobile: 0776 631 0880 Email: info@awatrees.com Website: awatrees.com
Union Forge, 27 Mowbray Street, Sheffield, S3 8EN. AWA Tree Consultants Limited. Company No. 8520123. Registered in England & Wales.

Contents

1. Introduction

1.1 Instruction

1.1.1 We were instructed by White Agus to prepare an arboricultural method statement for the proposed development.

1.2 Purpose

1.2.1 This method statement has been prepared in order to demonstrate that the development operations at this site can be undertaken with minimal risk of adverse impact on the trees to be retained.

1.2.2 This method statement conforms to BS 5837:2012 *Trees in relation to design, demolition and construction - Recommendations*. It is based on the arboricultural data, collected at a site visit during July 2024, detailed within Appendix 3 of this report.

1.3 Description of Development

1.3.1 It is proposed to build a new residential development with associated access, parking, landscaping and facilities. The proposed development layout has been provided by my client and is the basis for the Tree Protection Plan at Appendix 4.

1.4 Details of Consent

1.4.1 Planning consent is subject to this method statement being agreed upon in advance by the Local Planning Authority. The contents of this report must be adhered to, before, during, and after the construction phase.

1.4.2 As such, no equipment, machinery or materials shall be brought onto the site in connection with the development until this arboricultural method statement detailing tree management and tree protection measures has been submitted to and approved by the Local Planning Authority.

1.5 Legal

1.5.1 The following advice is for guidance purposes only. Some trees are protected by legislation, and it is essential that the legal status of trees is established prior to carrying out works to them.

1.5.2 Unauthorised work to protected trees could lead to prosecution, resulting in enforcement action such as fines or a criminal record. Tree Preservation Orders, Conservation Areas, Planning Conditions, Felling Licences or Restrictive Covenants legally protect many trees in the UK.

1.5.3 An online search was undertaken with Barnsley Metropolitan Borough Council on 25/07/24 to check whether any trees at the site are protected by a Tree Preservation Order or are located within a Conservation Area. As of this date no trees at the site are protected by a Tree Preservation Order or are within a Conservation Area.

1.5.4 Due to the large potential penalties for illegally carrying out work to protected trees, before authorising any tree works a further check should be made with the Local Planning Authority to confirm if any trees are covered by a Tree Preservation Order or are within a Conservation Area. If either applies, then statutory permission is required before any works can take place (unless such work is approved as part of full planning permission).

1.5.5 The Multi-Agency Geographical Information for the Countryside (MAGIC) website was used to search for areas of ancient woodlands listed on the Ancient Woodland (DEFRA 2021), and a check for catalogued Ancient and Veteran trees using the woodland trust ancient tree inventory (Woodland Trust 2021).

1.5.6 It was confirmed that there are no designated ancient woodlands or veteran trees within the survey area.

1.5.7 Trees provide a wide range of habitats for many species, some of which are legally protected such as bats, nesting birds, badgers and dormice. It is essential that appropriate care is taken to ensure that this legislation is not contravened.

1.5.8 When appointing a tree surgeon, only properly qualified and experienced companies should be used, who have adequate Public Liability and Employer's Liability Insurance.

1.5.9 All tree work should be carried out according to British Standard 3998:2010 Tree Work - Recommendations.

2. Method Statement Timeline

2.1 Overview of Sequence of Operations

2.1.1 In overview, it is necessary to undertake the following sequence of operations in relation to arboricultural input for development operations.

1 Method statement approved by the LPA

2 Undertake tree works

3 Install tree protection fencing and ground protection boards

4 Pre commencement meeting/ confirm fencing and boards are as specified

5 Construct new development

6 Remove tree protection fencing and ground protection boards

2.2 Specific Sequence of Operations

2.2.1 The following timeline table informs the key principles for development operations proceeding in relation to arboricultural requirements conditioned as part of this method statement.

2.2.2 The actions and timescales within this table must be adhered to in order to discharge the arboricultural method statement planning condition for this site.

2.2.3 The precise timing and order of some of the development operations may need to be changed due to site specific operational requirements, yet any operations that may affect the trees on the site must be done so under arboricultural supervision by a suitably qualified person appointed by the contractor.

Sequence of Operations		
Stages	***Action***	***Arboricultural Input***
1 Approval	This AMS is submitted to and approved in writing by the LPA.	If necessary, liaise with contractor and LPA to discuss methodologies detailed.
2 Tree Works	Pruning works shall be carried out to T5 as the first operation on site, in accordance with Appendix 3 and as detailed in section 3.1.	Review the tree work requirements with the tree contractor. If necessary, liaise with the contractor on site during tree works.
3 Tree Protection	Installation of the tree protection fencing and ground protection boards will take place as shown at Appendix 4, prior to any storage of plant, materials and machinery.	If necessary, liaise with the contractor installing the tree protection fencing and ground protection boards until completed to the standard specified in this method statement.
4 Site Meeting: Construction	Following installation of tree protection fencing and ground protection boards, the LPA shall be invited to inspect the fencing and boards and discuss any other site operations that have implications for trees.	Meeting with a representative of the LPA and the site manager. Alternatively, contractor can confirm the fencing, boards, and tree works are as specified by taking photographs.
5 Construction	Undertake the construction of the new development.	If necessary, liaise with the local authority and the site foreman to ensure any issues are adequately resolved.
6 Site Finishing	Removal of tree protection fencing and ground protection boards must only be undertaken when all site traffic and machinery has left the site.	If acceptable to the LPA, the contractor can take photographs of the site to give to the LPA to gain approval for the removal of the tree protection fencing and ground protection boards.

3. Tree Management

3.1 Tree Works

3.1.1 Retained Birch tree T7 will require minor pruning to avoid damage during construction and future nuisance issues. Prune back the western crown to give 1.5m clearance from the proposed building. Do not prune beyond the boundary.

3.1.2 All tree work must be carried out according to British Standard 3998:2010 Tree Work - Recommendations.

3.1.3 When appointing a tree surgeon, only properly qualified and experienced companies should be used, who have adequate Public Liability and Employer's Liability Insurance.

4. Tree Protection

4.1 Tree Protection Fencing

4.1.1 The tree protection fencing for this site should be located as shown on the Tree Protection Plan at Appendix 4 (as illustrated with a thick purple line).

4.1.2 The tree protection fencing will be appropriate to the degree and proximity of likely construction works as well as the value of the trees. In this instance, due to the low value of the trees an adequate level of protection for the trees could be provided by secured 'Heras' type fencing, of welded mesh panels on rubber or concrete feet (see Figures at Appendix 1 for examples).

4.1.3 The precise fencing location may need to be slightly adjusted on site due to local site conditions but is not expected to differ from that shown on the Tree Protection Plan. The final fencing position must be agreed on by the LPA before the commencement of any site works.

4.1.4 The tree protection fencing details should be incorporated into

relevant subsequent plans, method statements used for design purposes and construction drawings issued for use on site, to ensure that all interested parties are fully aware of the areas in which access and works may and may not take place.

4.1.5 The area enclosed by the fencing is referred to as the Construction Exclusion Zone (CEZ); this area should be considered a restricted area. No pedestrians, vehicles, storage of materials, equipment or machinery should be allowed within the CEZ unless specified in this method statement. The site manager must ensure that all personnel are aware of the restrictions that apply to the fenced-off area.

4.1.6 Once the fencing is erected, waterproof warning signs labelled 'Tree Protection Area' should be placed at 3m intervals to ensure that all personnel are aware of the restrictions that apply to the fenced-off area (see Appendix 1 for example signs).

4.1.7 The tree protection fencing should be inspected for faults or damage by the site manager or other responsible named person on a regular basis and a written record kept. Any faults or defects should be repaired or replaced as soon as is reasonably practicable. The Tree Protection Fencing shall not be removed, breached or altered without prior written authorisation from the local planning authority and under arboricultural supervision by a suitable named responsible individual appointed by the site manager.

4.2 Ground Protection Boards

4.2.1 The development work is within the exposed RPA of retained trees. As such, ground protection will be required within the RPA of T4, T5, T6, T7, T11 and T12 to avoid compaction of the soil which can arise from the single passage of a heavy vehicle, especially in wet conditions, so that tree root functions remain unimpaired.

4.2.2 Interlinked ground protection boards should be used (see Appendix 1 for an example). They should be located as shown on the Tree Protection Plan at Appendix 4 (as illustrated with a light blue hatched area).

4.2.3 The precise location of the boards may need to be slightly adjusted on site due to local site conditions but is not expected to differ significantly from that shown on the Tree Protection Plan.

4.2.4 The new temporary ground protection should be capable of supporting any traffic entering or using the site without being distorted or causing compaction of underlying soil.

4.2.5 For pedestrian movements only, a single thickness of scaffold boards placed either on top of a driven scaffold frame, so as to form a suspended walkway, or on top of a compression-resistant layer (e.g. 100 mm depth of woodchip), laid onto a geotextile membrane.

4.2.6 For pedestrian-operated plant up to a gross weight of 2t, proprietary, inter-linked ground protection boards placed on top of a compression-resistant layer (e.g. 150 mm depth of woodchip), laid onto a geotextile membrane.

5. Works Close To Retained Trees

5.1 New Hard Surfaces

5.1.1 New hard surfaces, in the form of driveways and parking spaces, are proposed within the RPA of the retained trees T2, T3, T4, T5, T6 and T7.

5.1.2 The works within the RPA should not adversely impact on the health or future condition of the trees provided a 'no-dig' method of construction is utilised.

5.1.3 The design and construction of the hard surfaces needs to be sensitive to the requirements of tree roots, substantial enough to withstand the expected levels of traffic and practicable in terms of ease of fabrication.

5.1.4 The finished surface must be porous in order to allow air and water to reach the tree roots, whilst at the same time being able to withstand the load applied. Toxic substances which could leach into the ground must be avoided. Severance of roots and soil compaction should be avoided. Any minor excavations in these areas to remove the existing surface vegetation/turf layer must be done so using hand tools only and under arboricultural supervision.

5.1.5 We are not qualified to recommend any particular construction method in terms of durability or structural integrity and any proposed

construction method should be approved by a qualified structural engineer prior to implementation. Appropriate sub-base options for new hard surfacing include three-dimensional cellular confinement system, such as those provided by Geosynthetics Limited (http://www.geosyn.co.uk).

5.2 Construction of New Structures

5.2.1 The new residential dwellings are situated within the RPA of retained trees T6 and T7.

5.2.2 The tree Root Protection Area (RPA) for each tree has been plotted as a polygon centred on the base of the stem. Due to the presence of roads, structures, topography (and past tree management) the RPA is likely to be a simplified representation of the tree roots' actual morphology and disposition.

5.2.3 Because of this the minor encroachment of the development into the trees' RPA should not significantly adversely impact on the health or future condition of the trees.

5.3 Drainage and Utilities

5.3.1 New drainage and underground utilities are to be positioned outside of the RPAs of retained trees, and above ground utilities will be routed away from areas where they are likely to interfere with the retained trees' crowns.

5.3.2 NJUG 10: Guidelines for the Planning, Installation and Maintenance of Utility Services in Proximity to Trees should be considered when installing services.

5.4 Additional Precautions

5.4.1 Allowance should be made for operations outside of the CEZ that could indirectly impact on trees. Including space for site huts, temporary toilet facilities (including their drainage) and other temporary structures; and space for storing (whether temporary or

long-term) materials.

5.4.2 Care must be taken to prevent contamination with chemical spillages, including petrol, diesel and oils. Cement mixers and any other toxic materials should not be permitted within the RPA of the trees. Any materials whose accidental spillage would cause damage to a tree should be stored and handled well away from the outer edge of its RPA.

5.4.3 Fires on the site should be avoided if possible. Where they are unavoidable, and approved by the Local environmental health authority, they should not be lit in a position where heat could affect foliage or branches. The potential size of a fire and the wind direction should be considered when determining its location, and it should be attended always until safe enough to leave.

5.5 Post Construction Landscaping

5.5.1 Many of the trees on site may be subject to some form of landscaping or seeding beneath their canopies after the development phase. At this stage the protective fencing will have been removed and the property may be occupied.

5.5.2 Landscaping works should be carried out in such a way as to avoid ground level changes or deep digging. Tractor mounted rotovation or other mechanised cultivation methods must not be used.

5.5.3 No heavy machinery should be brought into the vicinity of retained trees.

5.5.4 Herbicides should be appropriate for the purpose and should not be used in such a way as to damage any retained trees or vegetation.

6. Signature

I trust this report provides all the required information.

Signed

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Adam Winson
Chartered Arboriculturist, MSc, BSc (Hons), MICFor, AIEEM

5th September 2024

AWA Tree Consultants Limited
Union Forge
27 Mowbray Street
Sheffield
S3 8EN

www.awatrees.com

Appendix 1: Images and Figure

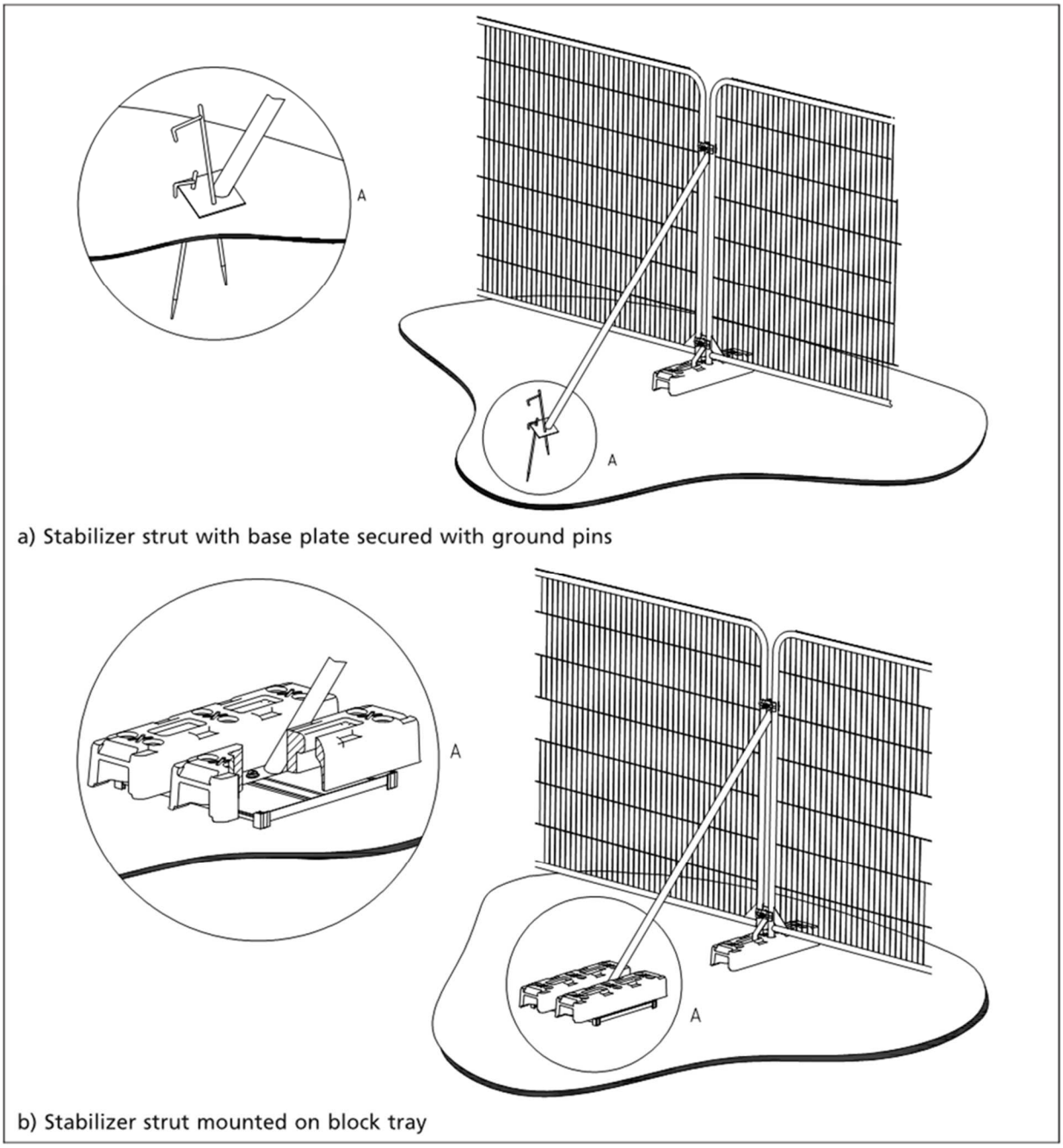

Figure 1: Secured 'Heras' type fencing with stabilizing system and fixed central pins (©BSI)

Figure 2: Secured 'Heras' type fencing with stabilizing system and anti-tamper couplers

Figure 3: Anti-tamper couplers to secure fencing and avoid unauthorised access

Figure 4: Warning sign for fencing

Figure 5: Example of A3 correx tree protection warning sign fixed to fencing panel

Figure 6: Interlinked ground protection boards placed on top woodchip

Appendix 2: Relevant Contact Details

Contact Name	Organisation/ Details	Contact Number	Contact E-mail
Tom Agus	White Agus Ltd.	01226 208482	tom@whiteagus.co.uk
Adam Winson	AWA Tree Consultants Ltd.	0114 272 1124	adam@awatrees.com
Edward Jowett	Barnsley Tree Officer Development Management	01226 772557	EdwardJowett@barnsley.gov.uk

	Tree Species			Measurements				Crown (m)					Tree Condition						Value		Management
Tree ID	*Common Name*	*Latin Name*	*Maturity*	*Height (m)*	*Stems*	*Stem Diameter (mm)*	*Estimated*	*Crown height*	*N*	*E*	*S*	*W*	*Roots*	*Stem*	*Crown*	*Comments*	*Physiological*	*Structural*	*Life Expectancy*	*Amenity*	*Category*	*Works*
T1	Hornbeam	*Carpinus betulus*	Early-mature	12	1	320	Yes	3	3	3	3	3	Limited access around base	Multiple stemmed at 2m. Tight union. Partially included bark. Old pruning wounds	Sparse lower eastern crown	Adjacent street tree. Shrubby undergrowth prevented detailed inspection of base. Crown raised to 4m. Gap in crown to east where stem previously removed leaving stub with epicormic growth	Good	Good	>40 yrs	Moderate	B	No works required
T2	Ash	*Fraxinus excelsior*	Semi-mature	8	2	220, 220	Yes	2	4	4	4	4	Limited access around base	Twin stemmed at base. Old pruning wounds. Stubs	Major dieback. Minor and moderate deadwood	Adjacent tree, no access. Stage 3 Ash Dieback Disease. Minor and moderate deadwood throughout crown	Poor	Poor	<10 yrs	Low	U	No works required
T3	Norway Maple	*Acer platanoides 'Royal Red'*	Early-mature	8	1	380	Yes	2	3.5	3.5	3.5	3.5	Limited access around base	Twin stemmed at 2m. Tight union. Partially included bark	Normal	Adjacent tree, no access	Good	Fair	10 to 20 yrs	Low	C	No works required
T4	Birch	*Betulus pendula*	Semi-mature	8	1	250	Yes	1	2	2	2	2	Limited access around base	Single stemmed. Vertical	Small / sparse	Adjacent tree, no access. Bindweed in lower crown	Fair	Fair	10 to 20 yrs	Low	C	No works required
T5	Poplar	*Populus nigra 'italica'*	Early-mature	25	1	400	Yes	1.5	2	2	2	2	Limited access around base	Vertical. Single stemmed	Normal	Adjacent tree, no access	Fair	Good	10 to 20 yrs	Moderate	C	No works required

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	Tree Species			Measurements				Crown (m)					Tree Condition						Value		Management
Tree ID	*Common Name*	*Latin Name*	*Maturity*	*Height (m)*	*Stems*	*Stem Diameter (mm)*	*Estimated*	*Crown height*	*N*	*E*	*S*	*W*	*Roots*	*Stem*	*Crown*	*Comments*	*Physiological*	*Structural*	*Life Expectancy*	*Amenity*	*Category*	*Works*
T6	Birch	*Betulus pendula*	Semi-mature	10	1	280	Yes	1	2	3	3	2	Limited access around base	Multiple stemmed at 2m. Old pruning wounds. Stubs. Tight union. Minor cavities	Old pruning wounds. Minor deadwood	Adjacent tree, no access	Fair	Fair	10 to 20 yrs	Low	C	No works required
T7	Birch	*Betulus pendula*	Early-mature	12	1	280	Yes	2	1.5	3	3	3	Limited access around base	Multiple stemmed at 2m. Old pruning wounds. Ivy covered. Tight union. Partially included bark		Adjacent tree, no access. Stem and lower crown Ivy covered, preventing detailed inspection	Fair	Fair	10 to 20 yrs	Low	C	Pruning works required to facilitate the development: prune back western crown to give 1.5m clearance from proposed building
T8	Sorbus	*Sorbus aucuparia*	Semi-mature	8	1	280	Yes	2	2.5	2.5	2.5	2.5	Limited access around base	Limited visibility	Normal	Adjacent tree, no access. Shrubs at base	Good	Fair	10 to 20 yrs	Low	C	No works required
G9	Cypress	Cupressus sp.	Early-mature	20	6+	500 avg	Yes	6	See plans				Linear group of adjacent Cypress. Crown raised leaving lower stems bare				Fair	Poor	10 to 20 yrs	Low	C	No works required
T10	Cypress	Cupressus sp.	Mature	20	1	500	Yes	1.5	3.5	3.5	3.5	3.5	Limited access around base	Multiple stemmed at 2m	Normal	Adjacent tree, no access	Good	Good	10 to 20 yrs	Moderate	C	No works required

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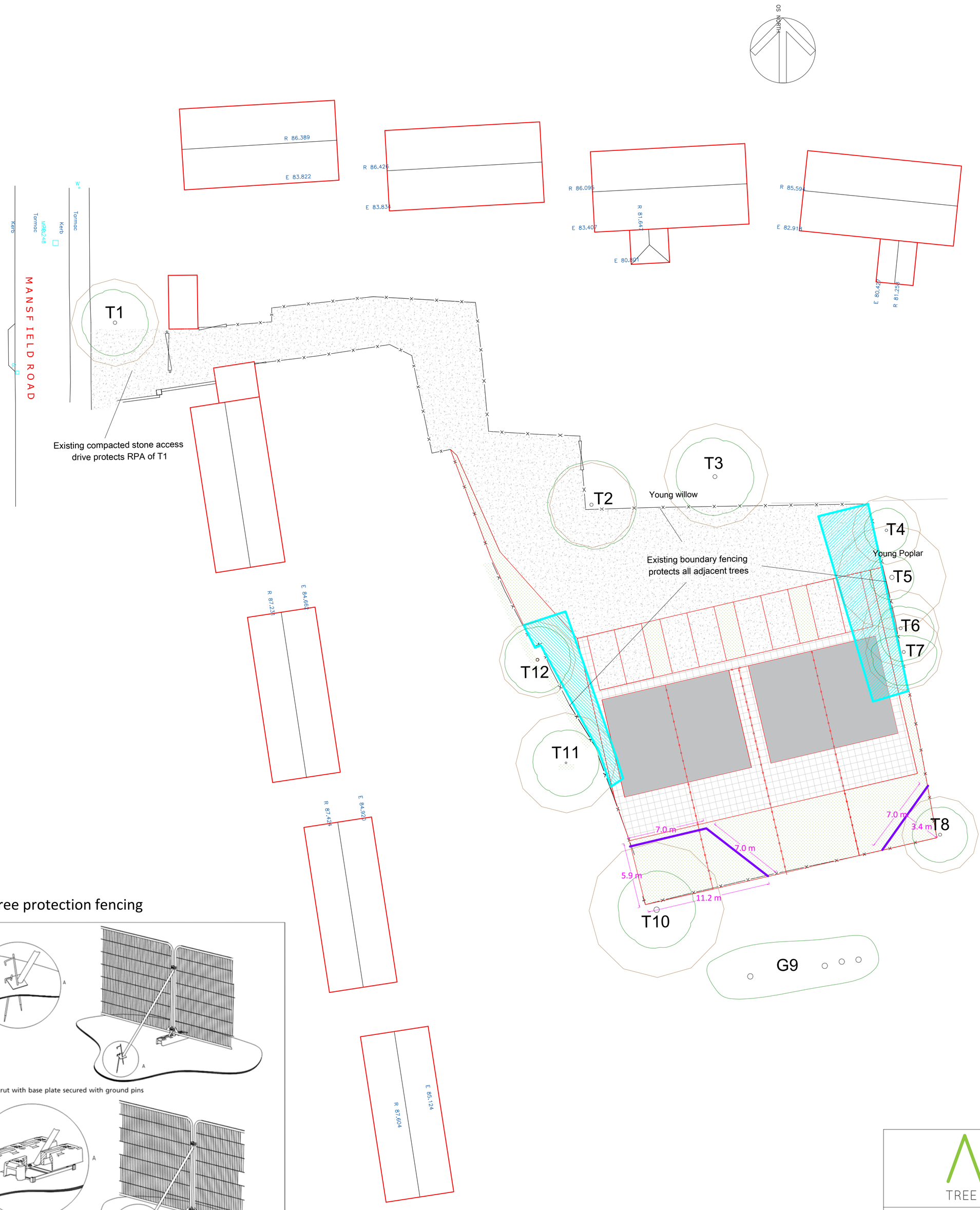
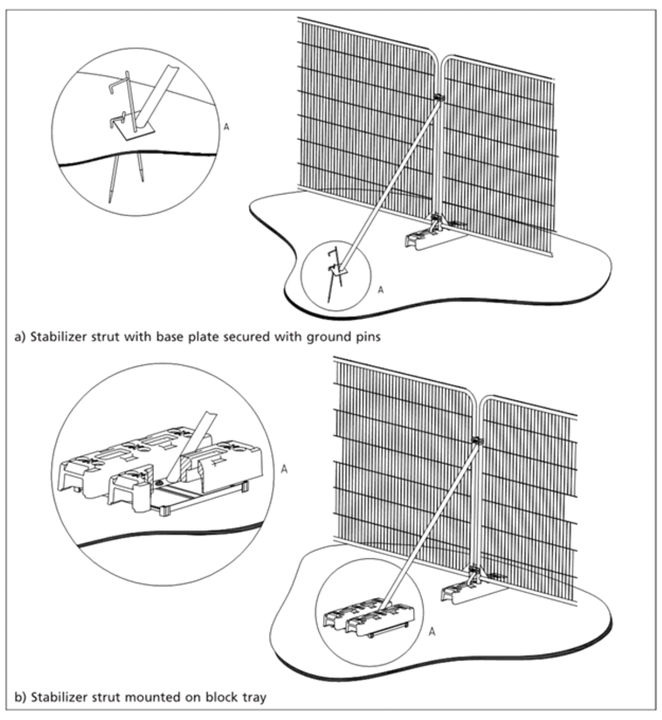
	Tree Species			Measurements				Crown (m)					Tree Condition							Value		Management
Tree ID	*Common Name*	*Latin Name*	*Maturity*	*Height (m)*	*Stems*	*Stem Diameter (mm)*	*Estimated*	*Crown height*	*N*	*E*	*S*	*W*	*Roots*	*Stem*	*Crown*	*Comments*	*Physiological*	*Structural*	*Life Expectancy*	*Amenity*	*Category*	*Works*
T11	Hawthorn	*Crataegus monogna*	Semi-mature	8	6+	150 avg	Yes	2	3	3	3	3	Limited access around base	Multiple stemmed at 1m	Small / sparse. Minor deadwood	Adjacent tree, no access	Fair	Fair	10 to 20 yrs	Low	C	No works required
T12	Willow	*Salix matsudana*	Semi-mature	7	1	280	Yes	1.5	3	3	3	3	Limited access around base	Old pruning wounds. Stubs. Bark damage. Minor cavities. Slight lean	Minor deadwood	Adjacent tree, no access	Fair	Poor	10 to 20 yrs	Low	C	No works required



Heras tree protection fencing



Ground protection boards

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Appendix 4:
Tree Protection Plan

Land to rear of 31 Mansfield Road, Athersley, Barnsley
Ref: AWA6106

BRITISH STANDARD 5837:2012

SCALE: 1:200 PAPER: A1

	TREE/ TREE GROUP/ HEDGE TO BE RETAINED
	TREE/ TREE GROUP/ HEDGE TO BE REMOVED
	RPA: ROOT PROTECTION AREA
	TREE STEM
	TREE PROTECTION FENCING
	GROUND PROTECTION BOARDS