

Land at Chestnut Way, Littleborough

Arboricultural Method Statement

1. Introduction

The Proposed Site Plan prepared by CJ Partnership identifies the existing trees that are to be retained and therefore protected. They lie beyond the northwest boundary of the site.

2. The Site

The site is located and accessed off Chestnut Way, Littleborough, and benefits from planning permission to erect nine detached dwellings. The site borders a recently-completed residential development and the gardens of other dwelling-houses to the northwest, northeast and south east.

3. The Proposal

Rochdale Borough Council have stipulated that the existing trees beyond the northwest boundary of the site require a tree protection plan and an arboricultural method statement.

The existing trees are not located where the 'major' construction works will take place; rather they lie on the boundary of what is proposed to be garden area(s) on this site and what is already garden land on the adjacent properties. Subsequently, the risk to them from the proposed development is minimal; nevertheless, this statement will outline the tree protection measures that will be implemented so as to reduce that risk further.

At this stage it is not envisaged that any part of the tree(s) require pruning so as to facilitate the construction works. Any trees requiring pruning within the site boundaries should be minimal and sympathetic to the tree species and situation in line with BS3998 2010 Tree Work Recommendations.

Post development pruning may be deemed necessary to promote health and vigour and to ensure minimum conflict between trees and buildings.

4. Tree Protection

Prior to any construction, the trees are to be protected by protective fencing. The tree protection fencing is to be erected as detailed below and maintained in place until the project has been completed.

As the trees are a satisfactory distance away from the 'primary construction area', in and around what will be the gardens of the new dwelling-houses – we feel that herras fence panels, sat in feet, double-clipped (one towards the top and another towards the bottom) to connect the panels, will be sufficient for this project. See an indicative picture below.



Indicative tree protective fencing; however we will also use clips to connect the panels for extra security. Additionally, the positioning of the fencing will be cited to protect the curtilage of the trees i.e. positioned further away than the tree trunk.

5. Excavations within the RPA

All excavations within the Root Protection Area of the retained trees will be excavated by hand or non-invasive machinery in accordance with clause 11.3.5 of BS 5837:2005. Any roots that are exposed should be wrapped in dry, clean hessian sacking to prevent desiccation and to protect from rapid temperature changes. Roots should be pruned back, preferably to a side branch, using a proprietary cutting tool such as bypass secateurs or handsaws.

Prior to backfilling, any hessian wrapping should be removed and retained roots should be surrounded with sharp sand, or other loose granular fill before soil or other material is replaced.

Extreme care should be taken as not to damage the roots, trunks and branches of any retained trees. Some works may be close to some trees and it may be deemed impractical to erect any protective fencing during this work. Advice from the Local Authority Arboriculturalist should be sought and any temporary protection put in place. Protective fencing should be resurrected following the close proximity working to ensure protection from the wider development.

6. Foundation & Wall Construction

As alluded to above, the primary construction zone that will form the bulk of loading and unloading materials, and the movement of heavy plant and machinery will be at a satisfactory distance away from the curtilage of the branches and roots.

It is proposed that the boundary to the northwest of the site, where the trees are sited will comprise timber fencing which does not require any concrete footings and can be excavated carefully by hand. The operatives working within the vicinity of the Tree Protection Area will be briefed via a toolbox talk and advised to pay special attention and careful consideration.

7. Supervision & Reporting

The site manager will be responsible for overseeing the continual protection of the retained trees, on behalf of the contractor, Clive Rainford Homes.

8. Contingency Plans

If there are any unforeseen circumstances that may adversely affect the welfare or security of the trees, causing the contractor to deviate from what is outlined in this document; the contractor or a representative, will contact the Council's Arboriculturalist.