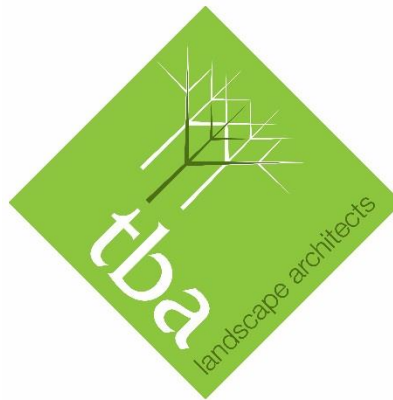


**Baytree Lane
Middleton
Rochdale**

J Walker Homes Ltd

**ARBORICULTURAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT
AND
METHOD STATEMENT**



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Trevor Bridge Associates Limited

April 2024

Ref: PD/7425/AIA&AMS/APR24

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1.0 Introduction

- 1.1 This document has been prepared by Trevor Bridge Associates on the behalf of J Walker Homes Ltd. It provides an Arboricultural Impact Assessment (AIA) and Arboricultural Method Statement (AMS) in regards to the following proposed development.
- Construction of 5 dwellings and related infrastructure.
- 1.2 This document follows, and should be read in conjunction with, a pre-development tree survey that was undertaken by TBA Ltd in date 2024 (ref: PD/7425/TSR/MAR24).
- 1.3 For the purposes of preparing this document the following material was referenced:
- **Client drawing: *Proposed Site Layout. Job No. M5132. Drawing. No. PL.01. Date: 08.02.24.***
- 1.4 This report assesses the potential impacts to trees as a consequence of the development proposals, as well as specifying the necessary methodologies required during construction to ensure that trees being retained are afforded adequate protection from harm.
- 1.5 Accompanying this report is the following drawing which must be read in conjunction with this report:
- **TBA Drawing: *Tree Protection Plan. Drawing No. 7425.02. Date: April 2024.***

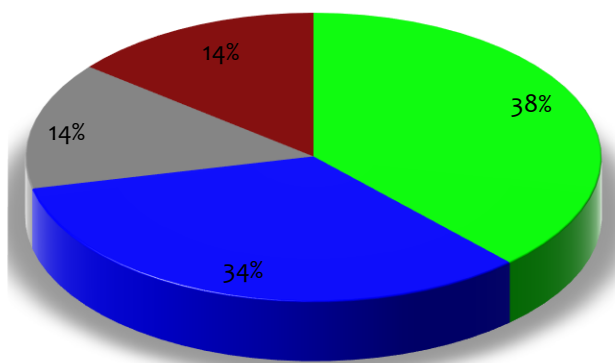
2.0 Arboricultural Impact Assessment

2.1 The consequences on existing trees situated within and adjacent the proposed development site are considered.

2.2 The value of the trees and vegetation surveyed

In the initial tree survey report a total of 5 items were surveyed within and adjacent to the development site. These items comprised 3 individual trees, 1 groups and 1 hedges. The chart and table below shows the ratio of tree retention categories on the site and number of items (be it groups or individuals etc that were surveyed).

Tree/hedge retention category ratios



Retention Category	No.
A (High Value)	0
B (Moderate value)	0
C (Low value)	4
U (Remove)	1

3.0 Arboricultural Impact Table - Key

- 3.1 The Arboricultural Impact Table (section 3.3) lists all items surveyed within the site. The tree data is taken from the initial tree survey report. The table is colour coded for ease of reference, particularly in relation to the value of trees and the potential impact that may occur to them:

Tree Values

High	High value tree / group / hedge as included within the initial tree survey
B (Moderate)	Moderate value tree / group / hedge as included within the initial tree survey
C (Low)	Low value tree / group / hedge as included within the initial tree survey
U (Remove)	Tree / group / hedge in poor condition. Retention unsustainable within context of development

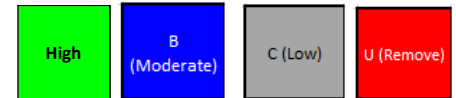
Impacts on Tree's / Groups

Removal	Tree / Group / Hedge will require removal in order to facilitate the development proposals
Partial Removal	Group or hedge will require partial removal to facilitate the development proposals
High	The development proposals will have a high impact the on the tree /group / hedge
Moderate	The development proposals will have a moderate impact on the tree / group /hedge
Low	The development proposals will have a low impact on the tree / group / hedge
None	The development proposals will have no impacts on the tree / group / hedge

Baytree Lane, Middleton

3.2 Arboricultural Impact Table - Cascade Chart:

3.2.1 Tree **Values** are taken from BS: 5837 and comprise of the following:



3.2.2 The **Impacts** comprise of 6 elements:



3.2.3 Causes of impacts comprise of 6 factors: **'None'**, **'To facilitate development'**, **'Due to poor condition'**, **'Direct disturbance to roots'**, **'Pruning required'** and **'Possible future pruning pressure due to shade and other factors'**.

3.2.4 Comments are also included providing more information where necessary.

	REMOVAL	PARTIAL REMOVAL	HIGH	MODERATE	LOW
TO FACILITATE DEVELOPMENT	Tree / group requires removal.	Partial removal of group is required. i.e., 'a section of hedge may require removal to allow a new access road'.	N/A	N/A	N/A
DUE TO POOR CONDITION	Tree or group require removal due to poor structural and / or physiological condition.	Part of group require removal due to poor structural and / or physiological condition.	N/A	N/A	N/A
DIRECT DISTURBANCE TO ROOTS	N/A	N/A	In many case this will result in the loss of tree/s - refer to 'TO FACILITATE DEVELOPMENT' . In rare cases a Tree/s may be retained but damage will occur to the roots.	Disturbance will be caused to roots of a tree/s that are likely to result in some physiological and structural dysfunction. The extent of damage does not require trees to be felled. Remedial actions may be taken in some cases that would help mitigate against damage but site topography, tree age, condition and species condition may result in disturbance being considered MODERATE as opposed to LOW .	Activity will occur within the root protection area of trees which will have a low impact, or can be mitigated by special measures.
PRUNING REQUIRED	N/A	N/A	Pruning that may retain a tree but will have a potential impact on the tree condition and visual appearance	Pruning is required that is acceptable within recommendations within BS3008:2010, but would require a material alteration to the tree/group affected.	Pruning is required that will have little impact to the structural, physiological and visual amenity of a tree or group.
POSSIBLE FUTURE PRUNING PRESSURE DUE TO SHADE OR OTHER FACTORS	Removal of tree/s required as retention is unsustainable and/or undesirable within the context of development. i.e. fast growing tree in small garden.	Partial removal of tree/s required as retention is unsustainable and/or undesirable within the context of development. i.e. fast growing tree in small garden.	Tree/s likely to cause significant shading. i.e. small garden areas with dense mature trees to south.	Some level of shade or other inconvenience will occur. Not highly oppressive, but some residents may seek management of trees in long term.	Some level of shading / overhang will occur.

3.3 ARBORICULTURAL IMPACT TABLE - RESULTS

Ref No.	Species	Value	Impact	Impact Cause	Management Options / Comments	Other
1T	Robinia	U (Poor)	Removal	Due to poor condition	Tree in significant decline. Removal required.	n/a
2T	Sycamore	C (Low)	None	None	RPA amended due to hardstanding directly to the south	Closed board fencing provides effective tree protection. No further fencing required.
3T	Robinia	C (Low)	None	None	RPA amended due to hardstanding directly to the south	Closed board fencing provides effective tree protection. No further fencing required.
4H	Privet	C (Low)	None	None	RPA amended due to hardstanding directly to the south	Tree protection fencing required. See 7425.02
5G	Cherry x 3	C (Low)	None	None	RPA amended due to hardstanding on all sides.	Tree protection fencing required. See 7425.02

4.0 General Issues

4.1 Installation of underground services

At the time of considering the layout design, no information was available relating to the proposed location of underground services. By default no services shall be placed within the identified Root Protection Areas of trees being retained. While it is possible in some cases that underground services may be placed within Root Protection Areas, this is best done under arboricultural supervision (at least initially). Where special installation methods are necessary (such as pipe jacking) supplementary method statements must be provided. The proposed location of underground infrastructures must be made available to the local planning authority prior to installation.

4.2 Storage of materials, contractor parking and site logistics

Logistically the site has adequate space for the placement of site huts and material storage. By default all compounds and storage areas are to be outside root protection areas/construction exclusion zones.

4.3 Level changes on site

No excavation or raising of ground levels are to occur within the construction exclusion zones within the site demarked by tree protection barrier fencing (green coloured zones) within the Tree Protection Plan. Where ground level changes are to occur adjacent retained trees, retaining structures are required.

5.0 Arboricultural Method Statement

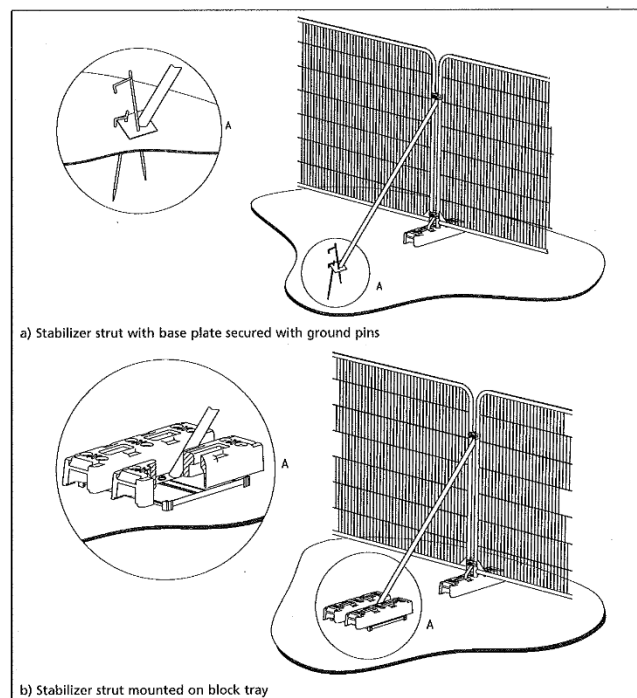
- 5.1 The Arboricultural Method Statement (AMS) specifies all measures to be undertaken to ensure the ongoing health and viability of trees to be retained within the proposed development.
- 5.2 This AMS is in compliance with British Standard 5837: 2012. **Accompanying this document is a plan that shows the position of protective fencing and any additional special measures that are required. This plan is referred to as the Tree Protection Plan.**
- 5.3 The AMS must be considered a 'working document'. It must be made available to the developer, site manager, and LPA. A copy of this document and the Tree Protection Plan must be kept on the development site at all times. All site operatives must be briefed on the main contents of this document.
- 5.4 It is the Site/Project Manager's responsibility to ensure that the detail of this AMS and the TPP and any agreed amendments are known and understood by all site personnel. A copy of this AMS and the TPP will be available for reference on site by the Project and Site Managers, and will form the basis of the management of all works relating to the trees on the site following commencement of the project. The Site Manager shall induct all personnel who could have an impact on trees on the content of this document.

5.5 Tree Works –General Issues

- 5.5.1 All tree works (tree felling and pruning) are to take place prior to any site operations and immediately before the installation of protective fencing.
- 5.5.2 All works to the existing trees are to be carried out by a fully qualified tree surgeon and in accordance with BS 3998 (2010) *Recommendations for Tree Work*.
- 5.5.3 The necessary tree surgery works should be carried out **before** any construction work starts and immediately before erection of protective fencing. Any works will include any trees that require removal in order to facilitate construction and access. No tree works must be carried out unless permission is provided by the local planning authority. Tree works to any protected trees (trees within a Conservation Area or subject to a Tree Preservation Order) that do not require works to directly enable the development to proceed will require a notification/application to be made to the Local Planning Authority. Any tree works required in order to **directly** facilitate the development to proceed (such as tree felling) must not proceed unless **full planning consent and written consent is given by the local planning authority**.
- 5.5.4 Wildlife issues and timing of operations. The following must be observed:
- Bats. Under current legislation it is an offence to 'intentionally or recklessly disturb a bat' or 'damage, destroy or block access to the resting place of any bat'. For further details consultation must be made with the Statutory Nature Conservancy Organisation (Natural England, 0300 060 1842 www.naturalengland.org.uk). Where relevant any current ecological surveys for the site will take precedence in this matter.
- 5.5.5 Birds. It is an offence to kill, injure or take any wild bird; or take, damage or destroy the nest of any wild bird while it is in use or being built. Therefore work likely to disturb nesting birds should be avoided from late March to August.

5.6 Tree Protective Barrier Fencing

- 5.6.1 Protective barriers must be erected prior to any site operations. The protective barriers are essential to prevent root severance or compaction of the soil in the Root Protection Areas, and so give the best chance of continued good health of the retained trees.
- 5.6.2 Tree protective barriers will be located on hard standing and so will be required to stand on rubber feet and will be erected in accordance with the diagram below. The location of the fencing is detailed within the submitted Tree Protection Plan ref 7425.02.



Where fencing is required adjacent the site boundaries it is acceptable to use Hoarding to double as protective fencing but only where the exact location of the protective fencing is adhered to (as per the Tree Protection Plan) and where it is hand installed only.

5.7 General Requirements

- 5.7.1 Developers must enforce the methods of protection identified within the statement. All contractors must also agree to them. Any failure to comply with them must be dealt with by the developer. Any damage that may occur to trees due to failure to observe the method statement must be reported to the Local Planning Authority and arboricultural advice must be sought.
- 5.7.2 No pruning, lopping, felling or severance of roots is to take place without prior consent of the local authority or unless in compliance with specifications included within the Method Statement.
- 5.7.3 **The ground levels within the protected areas, be they fenced or special working areas, must neither be raised nor excavated unless specifically in compliance with requirements within this method statement.**
- 5.7.4 No ropes, cables, services, or notice boards shall be fixed to existing trees.
- 5.7.5 Fires should not be permitted, or else not lit where flames could extend to within 10m of the foliage, branches or trunk of any trees (it should be noted that local environmental health authorities may have specific restrictions on fires),
- 5.7.6 Should temporary access within the Root Protection Area be required that is not included within the method statement, an agreement, in advance, with the consultant and the LPA must be made. The fence may need to be re-aligned and the ground surface protected. For vehicular access this protection will need to be specifically detailed and agreed.
- 5.7.7 Care must be taken in regards to tall or wide loads, or use of plant with booms, jibs and counterweights. Where machinery may be required to operate in the vicinity of trees a banksman must ensure that no direct physical damage is caused to trees. It must be checked that any materials or vehicles entering the site are able to do so without causing damage to adjacent trees.
- 5.7.8 Any material that will contaminate soil (e.g. concrete mixings, and vehicle washings) must not be discharged within 10m of any Root Protection Area. In addition it is essential that allowance be made for the slope of the ground so that damaging materials cannot run towards trees, or Root Protection Areas. If diesel and fuel containers are used or stored on site they must be kept within a plastic container bund to prevent any ground contamination and spill kits must be kept available to remediate any spillage.

5.8 Arboricultural monitoring

- (i) The arboricultural consultant (or local authority Tree Officer) shall be consulted whenever an unexpected issue occurs that involves any retained tree on site including access within the Protection Area.

Mike Gregory (Arboricultural Consultant) 07515827944.

- (ii) No amendments shall be made to the methods detailed in this Arboricultural Method Statement without the agreement of the consultant or local planning authority Tree Officer.
- (ii) If the site agent is at all unclear about exact compliance with any of the above requirements, or if requested by any other party, then a pre-start meeting shall be arranged with the architect, site agent, local authority tree officer and arboricultural consultant in attendance as necessary.

5.9 Health and Safety Issues

All operations must be carried out with full regard to Health and Safety requirements. Due to the diverse nature of recommendations included (e.g. tree surgery works, construction etc) it is necessary that supervisors of those undertaking recommended operations undertake risk assessments prior to starting the relevant works. It should be the Site Managers/developers responsibility to ensure that risk assessments are submitted prior to undertaking relevant works.

6.0 Method Statement Schedule

Phase	Requirements	Method		
1 Prior to erection of protective fencing.	Undertake tree and vegetation removal and pruning works. Trees/vegetation to be removed:	Refer to section 5.5 of AIA/MS report. All tree works to be carried out to BS3998: 2010: by suitably qualified and insured professional tree surgeons. The following tree felling <u>must</u> be undertaken at this Phase: Items requiring removal: <table><tr><td>1T</td><td>Robinia</td></tr></table>	1T	Robinia
1T	Robinia			
2 Prior to any construction works on site	Erection of protective fencing: To retain throughout the duration of the development:	Protective fencing is to be erected in accordance with 5.6 of AIA/MS report. The fencing must comply with the positions shown in the Tree Protection Plan. A scale copy of the Tree Protection Plan must be used as reference and fencing positions measured from the Plan using a scale rule and/or using the provided distances where shown. No works, no storage of materials, no access, or any ground disturbance is to take place within the Tree Protection Barrier Fencing other than works specified within the Arboricultural Method Statement. Fenced areas are to be treated as Construction Exclusion Zones. Warning signs to be placed on all protective fencing. For large sections of fencing the signs must be placed at 20m intervals. Signs must be laminated and securely attached at all corners. Two signs are to be placed side by side; copies of which are attached within Appendix A.		

Phase	Requirements	Method
3 Verifying quality of protective barriers	Verify that the location and quality of tree protection barriers is adequate prior to onset of main site works.	Site visit with Arboricultural Consultant and Site Manager. Tree Officer to be pre-informed of visit. In order for set works to proceed the pro-forma in Appendix B. of the AIA/AMS report is to be completed and passed on to the local planning authority: If the protective barriers are not adequately, work is not to proceed until rectified.
4 Ongoing	Maintain protective fencing	The tree protective barrier fencing is to remain in situ during all construction works.
5 Completion of main construction and undertaking of landscaping	Landscaping and Dismantling of tree barrier protective fencing.	It is essential that ground levels within the root protection areas are not altered, either by raising or lowering soil levels, even at the landscaping stage. Landscaping operations must be undertaken in a manner that will not impact trees. Landscaping within the root protection area of trees must be undertaken in the following manner: - Any existing ground flora (grass/weeds/scrub) is to be sprayed with a systemic herbicide and left to die-off. - Dead flora is to be trimmed as hard as possible with a brush cutter or similar. The bulk of the trimmed material is to be removed by raking. - A good quality organic topsoil layer may be placed down. Small depressions may be filled (and lightly compacted underfoot). Placed topsoil soil layers must not exceed 100mm depth. - No plant machinery operating within the root protection areas to exceed 1 tonne gross weight and must only operate from propriety ground protection boards such as DuraMatt Access Matts (see Appendix C). - Turf and other planting to proceed thereafter.

APPENDIX A - SIGNS TO ATTACH TO PROTECTIVE FENCING



Construction and Trees



Why Is Fencing Erected Around Trees?

1. The major cause of damage to trees on construction sites is due to **soil compaction**.
2. Roots use the spaces between soil particles to obtain Oxygen, Water and Nutrients.
3. Heavy plant and machinery compresses (compacts) the soil, squashing out the air spaces and preventing root function.
4. A compacted soil structure will stay compacted.
5. Consequently the tree suffers and will show signs of branch die-back.
6. Symptoms such as die-back may take several years to appear.
7. Soil compaction over roots can be prevented by maintaining a fenced exclusion zone over the tree roots.
8. The exclusion zone distance is calculated using British Standard 5837.
9. Protective Fencing is installed at the calculated distance.
10. Protective Fencing is a condition of planning approval, if it is removed or repositioned the construction firm is in breach of a condition and may be subjected to legal action.

APPENDIX B – Site Inspection pro-forma

**SITE INSPECTION - ARBORICULTURAL METHOD STATEMENT
(Ref: PD/7425/AIA&AMS/APR24)**

Site Address : Baytree Lane, Middleton

Name of Arboricultural Inspector:

Date of Inspection:

The purpose of this site inspection is to confirm with requirements within the above referenced Arboricultural Method Statement.

The site is to be visited and the placement of tree protection barrier fencing checked for compliance with specifications within the method statement.

Further works on the site shall not proceed until the tree protective fencing is installed in compliance with the method statement and in submitting this document to the Local Planning Authority the inspector is verifying that the necessary specifications have been met.

Notes (continue on separate attachments as necessary):

Photographs: (attach below):