



Arboricultural Method Statement to BS5837: 2012

SITE: Waterfold Lane, Heap Bridge, Heywood, Bury, BL9 7JY

Ref: NWTCAMS/RG01

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Table 1: General Information

Document Title	Arboricultural Method Statement to BS5837: 2012
Prepared for	Franstep Limited
Prepared by	North West Tree Consultancy Ltd
Document Ref	NWTCAMS/RG01
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Date	07/05/2026

1 Arboricultural Method Statement

The purpose of this Arboricultural Method Statement (AMS) is to demonstrate how the proposed residential development at Waterford Lane can be implemented whilst ensuring the protection and long-term retention of trees identified for retention.

The AMS sets out the procedures and control measures required to minimise potential impacts upon retained trees during the demolition and construction phases of development, in accordance with BS5837:2012 Trees in Relation to Design, Demolition and Construction – Recommendations.

All tree protection measures detailed within this AMS and the associated Tree Protection Plan (TPP) shall be installed prior to commencement of any site works and retained for the full duration of the construction phase.

No site clearance, excavation, delivery of materials or construction activity shall commence until all relevant tree protection measures are installed and site personnel have been briefed accordingly.

1.1 Site Management

The site manager shall be responsible for ensuring that all personnel working on site are made aware of the tree protection requirements and procedures contained within this Arboricultural Method Statement and associated Tree Protection Plan.

Copies of the AMS and TPP shall be made available to all contractors and relevant site personnel throughout the construction phase.

The site manager shall be responsible for:

- Ensuring protective fencing remains secure and intact throughout the development.
- Preventing unauthorised access, storage, excavation or construction activity within Root Protection Areas (RPAs).
- Liaising with the project arboriculturist regarding any tree-related matters.
- Ensuring materials, fuels, cement, spoil, plant and machinery are not stored or operated within RPAs unless specifically permitted within this AMS.
- Reporting any accidental damage to retained trees immediately to the project arboriculturist.

Should damage occur to retained trees or protective measures, works within the affected area shall cease until the project arboriculturist has inspected the damage and agreed any required mitigation measures.

Any pruning works required during construction shall be limited to minor pruning of lateral branches encroaching towards the proposed development and shall be undertaken only where necessary. All pruning works shall be carried out by suitably qualified arborists in accordance with BS3998:2010 Tree Work – Recommendations.

T009 and part of group G003 identified for removal as part of the proposed development, shall be removed prior to commencement of construction activities ensuring that works do not adversely affect retained trees or groups.

1.2 Monitoring and Supervision

All tree protection measures and construction activities occurring within or adjacent to RPAs shall be monitored by the project arboriculturist throughout the construction phase. The project arboriculturist shall maintain records of inspections and provide advice where necessary to ensure compliance with BS5837:2012 and the recommendations contained within this AMS.

1.3 Supervised Activities

The project arboriculturist shall attend site to supervise the following operations:

- Installation of protective fencing and ground protection measures.
- Removal of T009 and partial removal works associated with Group G003.
- Any excavation works occurring within or adjacent to retained RPAs.
- Minor root pruning works associated with G004.
- Installation of the cellular confinement system within the RPA of T007.
- Any excavation associated with service installation adjacent to retained trees.
- Minor pruning works to retained trees where required.
- Removal of protective fencing upon completion of development.
- Final project sign-off.

1.4 Prohibited Works within Root Protection Areas

The following activities shall be prohibited within retained RPAs unless specifically agreed in writing by the project arboriculturist:

- Mechanical excavation, grading or soil stripping.
- Storage of materials, spoil, chemicals, fuels or equipment.
- Parking or operation of plant and machinery.
- Mixing or washing of cement, concrete or other materials.
- Fires or burning operations.
- Attachment of signage, cables or equipment to retained trees.
- Refuelling of vehicles or plant.
- Alteration of existing soil levels.

All potentially hazardous materials shall be stored well outside retained RPAs and consideration shall be given to site topography to prevent runoff or contamination of rooting environments.

2 Sequence of Works

Table 2: Sequence of Works

Stage	Event
1	Pre-commencement meeting with site manager and project arboriculturist
2	Removal of T009 and approved partial removal works to G003
3	Installation of protective fencing and Construction Exclusion Zones in accordance with the Tree Protection Plan
4	Installation of ground protection where required
5	Supervised excavation and minor root pruning adjacent to G004
6	Installation of cellular confinement system within the RPA of T007
7	Construction of access road and parking areas
8	Minor pruning works to retained trees where required
9	Ongoing arboricultural monitoring throughout construction
10	Removal of protective measures and final inspection/sign-off by project arboriculturist

3 Protective Measures During Construction

Protective fencing shall be installed prior to commencement of any development activity in accordance with the approved Tree Protection Plan.

Protective fencing shall be erected around retained RPAs and shall remain in place for the full duration of the construction phase.

Following installation of protective measures, the project arboriculturist shall inspect the site to confirm fencing specification and positioning are compliant with the approved drawings and BS5837:2012 recommendations.

Should fencing become damaged or displaced during development, the site manager shall ensure immediate repair or reinstatement.

No plant, vehicles, materials or machinery shall operate beyond the protective fencing unless specifically permitted within this AMS.

Where machinery is required to operate adjacent to retained trees, operations shall be undertaken carefully and under the supervision of a banksman where necessary to prevent accidental damage to stems or canopies.

Existing site boundaries shall remain in place throughout the development unless otherwise agreed with the project arboriculturist.

3.1 Construction Exclusion Zone

Construction Exclusion Zones (CEZs) shall be established around retained trees and groups to prevent accidental damage during construction works.

No storage of materials, parking of vehicles, mixing of cement, loading/unloading activities or plant operation shall occur within the CEZ.

The CEZs shall be defined by the approved protective fencing shown on the Tree Protection Plan.

3.2 Additional Precautionary Measures

Fires on site should be avoided wherever practicable.

Where unavoidable, fires shall be located well away from retained trees and shall not be positioned where heat or smoke may adversely affect retained canopies or rooting environments.

All fires shall remain supervised at all times.

3.3 Protective Barrier Fencing

Protective barrier fencing shall be installed for the duration of the construction phase in accordance with BS5837:2012.

The fencing shall comprise 2m high welded mesh panels securely fixed to rubber or concrete feet and braced using stabiliser struts. (Figure 1 & 2).

Panels shall be joined using anti-tamper couplers and fitted with weatherproof warning signage stating: “Tree Protection Zone – Keep Out”. (Figure 3).

Protective fencing shall only be removed following completion of development works and agreement by the project arboriculturist.

Figure 1: BS5837: 2012 –Default specification for protective barriers

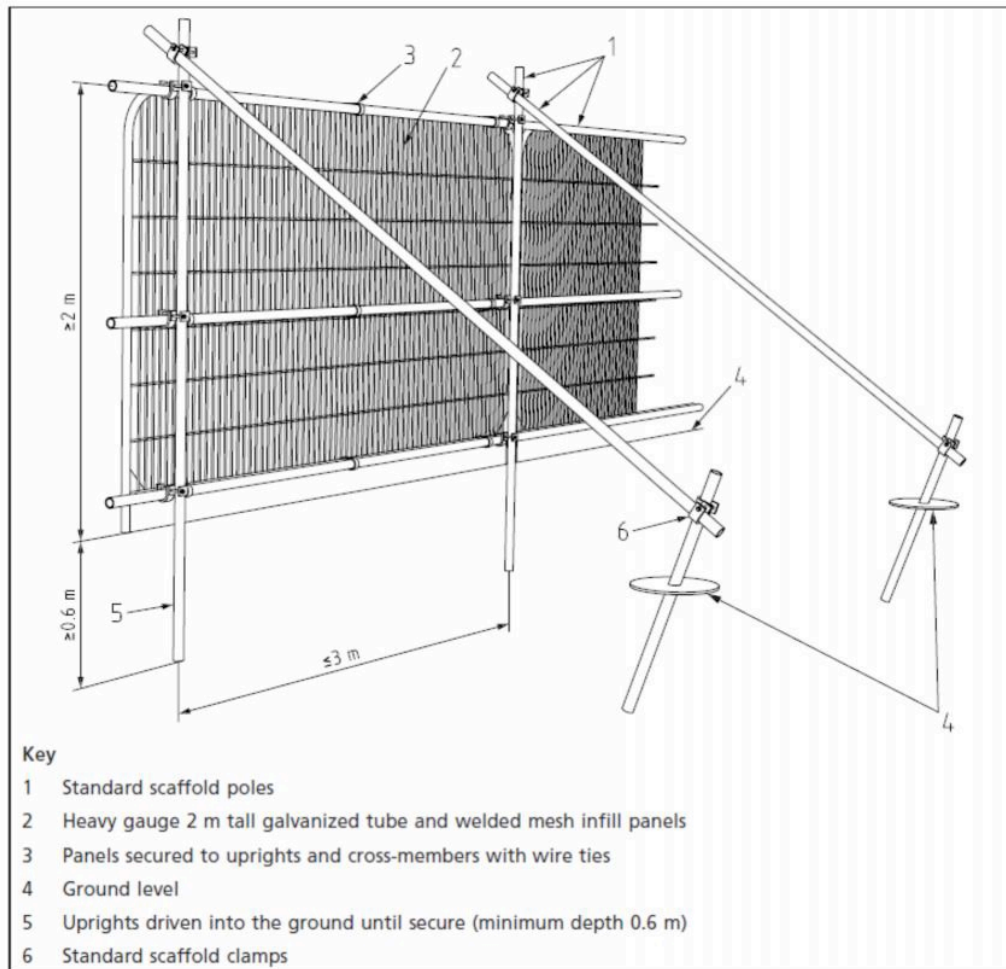


Figure 2: BS5837: 2012 – Alternative specification for protective barriers

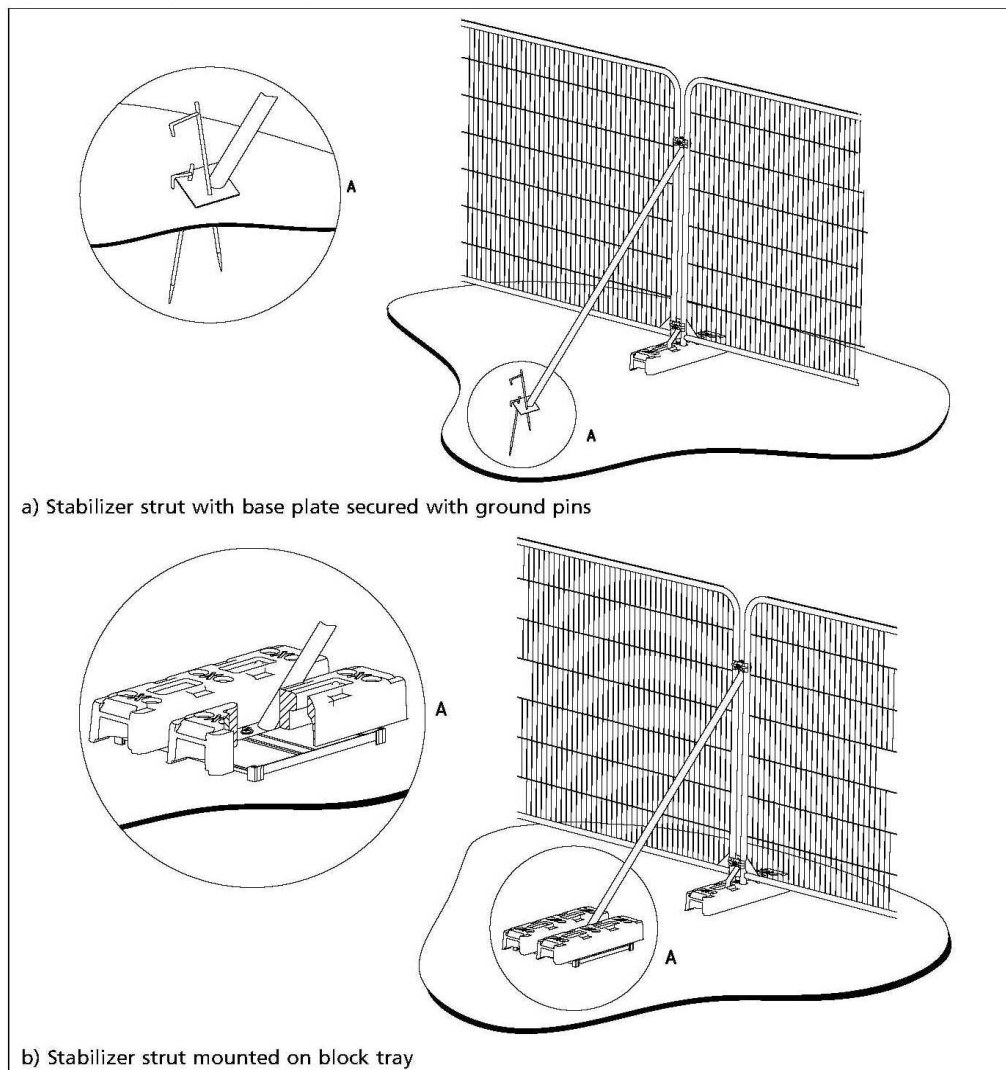


Figure 3: Example Tree Protection Area warning signs



4 Implementation of Root Pruning Works

The following methodology outlines the procedures for undertaking minor root pruning works required adjacent to Group G004 to facilitate construction of the proposed access road and parking areas.

All works shall be undertaken under arboricultural supervision in accordance with BS5837:2012.

4.1 Pre-Commencement Preparation

Protective fencing shall be installed prior to commencement of excavation works.

All personnel shall be briefed regarding tree protection requirements and approved excavation methodology.

Only hand tools and low-impact equipment shall be utilised within RPAs.

4.2 Root Pruning

Excavation adjacent to G004 shall be undertaken carefully using hand digging or air spade methods where necessary.

Only small diameter, non-structural roots shall be pruned where unavoidable. Roots shall be pruned cleanly using sharp, sterile tools in accordance with BS5837:2012 guidance.

Exposed roots shall be protected immediately from desiccation using damp hessian or backfilled promptly.

Any roots exceeding 25mm diameter encountered during excavation shall be retained wherever practicable and assessed by the project arboriculturist prior to removal.

4.3 Excavation and Ground Level Management

Excavation works shall be limited to the minimum extent necessary to facilitate construction.

Existing ground levels within retained RPAs shall be maintained wherever practicable.

Excavated materials shall be stored outside retained RPAs on protective sheeting.

4.4 Supervision and Monitoring

The project arboriculturist shall supervise root pruning and excavation works adjacent to G004.

Any unforeseen rooting constraints shall be assessed on site and alternative construction solutions considered where necessary.

5 Cellular Confinement System

A no-dig cellular confinement system shall be utilised within the RPA of T007 to facilitate construction of the proposed access road and turning areas whilst minimising disturbance to retained roots and soil structure.

The system is intended to distribute imposed loads evenly and prevent harmful soil compaction within the rooting environment.

5.1 Installation Methodology

- Existing vegetation and organic material shall be removed by hand only.
- No excavation or reduction of existing soil levels shall occur within the RPA.
- A geotextile separation membrane shall be laid directly onto the existing ground surface.
- The cellular confinement system shall be installed above existing ground levels.
- Cells shall be filled with clean, angular no-fines aggregate.
- Surfacing materials shall remain porous and permeable.
- Edging restraints shall avoid unnecessary excavation and shall be installed using pinned or above-ground solutions where practicable.
- All works shall be undertaken under arboricultural supervision.
- All machinery access associated with installation shall operate from outside retained RPAs or from previously installed ground protection measures.

Manufacturers specifications and guidance are presented in Appendix A to this report.

6 Conclusion and Recommendations

An updated Tree Survey, Arboricultural Impact Assessment and Arboricultural Method Statement have been prepared in support of the proposed residential development at Waterford Lane.

The proposed development has been designed to retain the majority of existing boundary trees and groups which provide moderate arboricultural and landscape value.

The development proposals require removal of T009 together with partial removal of Group G003. Limited construction works within retained RPAs will also be required adjacent to G004 and within the RPA of T007.

To mitigate potential impacts, all works within RPAs shall be undertaken in accordance with BS5837:2012 and the recommendations contained within this AMS.

Minor root pruning adjacent to G004 shall be carried out under arboricultural supervision, whilst the proposed access road and parking areas within the RPA of T007 shall be constructed using a no-dig cellular confinement system.

Protective fencing and Construction Exclusion Zones shall be maintained throughout the construction phase and all works occurring adjacent to retained trees shall be supervised where necessary by the project arboriculturist.

Subject to adherence with the recommendations contained within this report, the proposed development is considered capable of proceeding without resulting in unacceptable harm to the long-term health, stability or amenity value of retained trees.

7 Qualifications

- ABC Level 4 Diploma in Arboriculture
- ABC Level 4 Certificate in Arboriculture
- Professional Tree Inspection (Lantra Awards)

Membership

- Technician member of the Arboricultural Association (TechArborA)
- Associate member of the Institute of Chartered Foresters

8 Bibliography

British Standards Institution (2012). *BS5837:2012 Trees in Relation to Design, Demolition and Construction – Recommendations*. BSI Standards Limited.

British Standards Institution (2010). *BS3998:2010 Tree Work – Recommendations*. BSI Standards Limited.

National House Building Council (2026). *NHBC Standards 2026*. NHBC.
Department for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities (2023). National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF).

Arboricultural Association. *Guidance Note 12 – Through the Trees to Development*.

Arboricultural Association. *A Guide for Inspecting and Managing Trees in Relation to Construction*.

Health and Safety Executive (HSE). *Managing Health and Safety in Construction (CDM Regulations 2015)*.

APPENDICES

Appendix A: Manufacturers Specification and Guidance for Cellular Confinement System



Cellweb® TRP is a 3D cellular confinement tree root protection system. The system provides a 'no dig' solution for the construction of new hard surfaces within root protection areas (RPAs). Cellweb® TRP has been designed and independently tested to comply with recommendations made in Arboricultural Practice Note 12 and BS 5837 2012 – Trees in relation to design, demolition and construction.



Cellweb® TRP Key Functions

Cellweb® is a 'no dig' solution which is constructed directly on the existing ground surface. This eliminates the requirement for excavation, preventing root severance.

Cellweb® is a completely porous system allowing continued water permeation and gas exchange between the rooting environment and atmosphere.

Cellweb® spreads point loads, minimising increases in soil compaction within the rooting environment. This maintains an open graded soil structure allowing continued root growth, water, gas and nutrient migration.

The Cellweb® TRP system comprises the following three components

Treetex™ Geotextile. Following minimal ground preparation the Treetex™ is laid onto the existing ground and top soil. This acts as a separation layer, separating the system above from the soil and rooting environment below. Treetex™ performs as a hydrocarbon pollution control measure in accordance with BS5837, holding 1.7lt of oil per square meter.

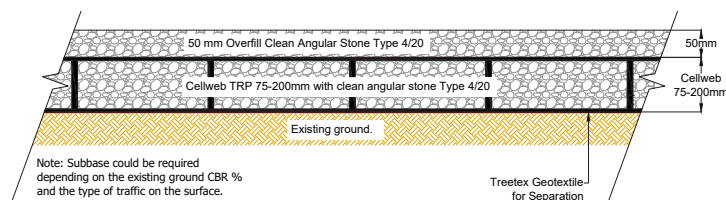
Cellweb® 3D Cellular Confinement. The Cellweb® is installed on top of the Treetex™ layer. This is fixed to the ground using ten steel J pins per panel. The panels can be cut to the required shape and adjoining panels can be connected using heavy duty staples or cell ties.

4-20mm Clean Angular Stone. The expanded Cellweb® is infilled with a 4-20mm clean angular stone. The confined angular stone locks together to produce a rigid stone mattress, while maintaining air pockets for continued water permeation and gas exchange. The low fines content of the stone prevents the Treetex™ layer from becoming blocked over time.

Which depth of Cellweb® TRP?

The Cellweb® System is provided in four different depths; 200mm, 150mm, 100mm and 75mm. The depth required is determined by the proposed traffic loadings and the site ground conditions. Geosynthetics in house engineering department can provide a free site specific technical recommendation. For free technical and engineering support please contact Geosynthetics Ltd 01455 617139 or the full installation guide can be found on our website www.geosyn.co.uk.

Indicative Cellweb with overfill



Web: www.geosyn.co.uk | Tel: 01455 617139
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Geosynthetics
Engineered Solutions

PRODUCT DATA SHEET

Geosynthetics Limited Tel: 01455 617 139 Fax: 01455 617 140 Email: sales@geosyn.co.uk

Cellweb® TRP Installation Guide



Step 1: Prepare Surface



Step 2: Lay out Treetex™



Step 3: Lay out Cellweb® TRP

- Cellweb® TRP is a NO DIG tree root protection measure and it is recommended that no excavation be performed without prior approval and guidance from the Local Authority Arboricultural Officer.
- Soil compaction from vehicles, machinery and materials is to be strictly prohibited during construction within Root Protection Areas (RPAs).
- Approval must be obtained from the Local Authority that the design and the method of construction is acceptable.
- Further information is available from the following two documents;
 - British Standard BS5837: 'Trees in Relation to Design, Demolition and Construction' (2012).
 - Arboricultural Advisory and Information Service: Practice note 12 – 'Through the Trees to Development' (APN12).

Installation Method

1. Prepare the Surface

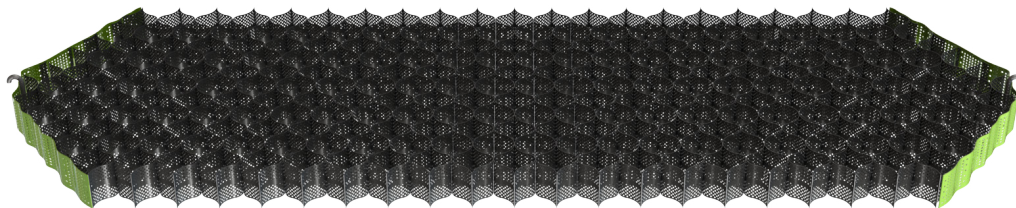
- Remove the surface vegetation using appropriate hand held tools or herbicide (see Note 1).
- Remove any surface rocks, debris and organic material.
- Do not level off high spots or compact the soil through rolling.

2. Lay out the Treetex™ Pollution Control Geotextile

- Lay out the Treetex™ over the prepared area, overlaying the edges of the required area by 300mm.
- Overlap any joins by 300mm minimum or more, depending on soil structure (see Note 2).
- Create a level surface by filling any hollows with clean angular stone or sharp sand.

3. Lay out the Cellweb® TRP Cellular Confinement System

- Lay out the collapsed Cellweb® TRP on-top of the Treetex™.
- Place one of the supplied J pins into the centre cell at the end of the panel and secure into the ground.



Cellweb® TRP - Installation Guide

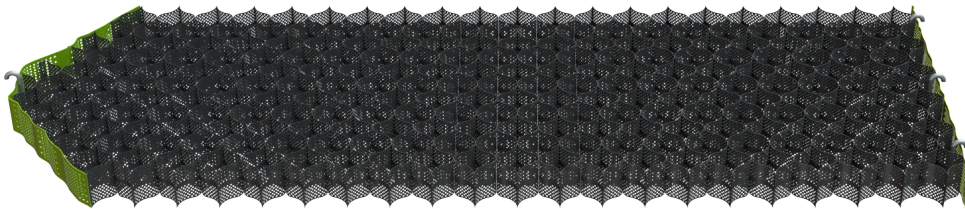


Step 3: Pinning Cellweb® TRP

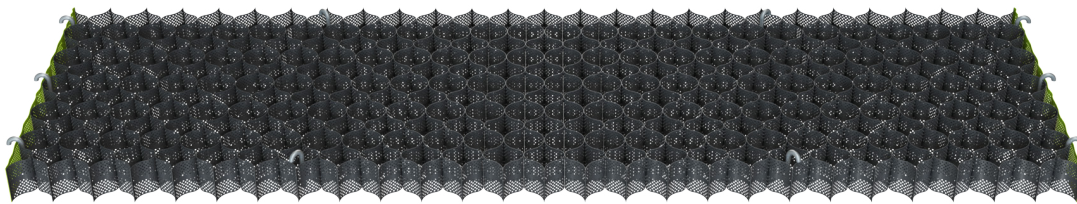


Step 3: Stapling Cellweb® TRP

- Pull out the Cellweb® TRP to its full 8.1m length and secure its length with another J pin.



- Now measure its width to 2.56m and secure in each of the corners with the J pins.
- Use 10 pins per panel to create a panel measuring 8.1m x 2.56m.



- This will produce a cell size of 259mm x 224mm which is the required cell aperture. Each cell must be fully extended and under tension.
- Staple adjacent panels together at each cell (see Note 3).
- If a curved path or shape is required, this should be cut when the Cellweb® TRP panel is pinned out to 8.1 x 2.56m, ensuring complete cells remain. Do not try to curve or bend the Cellweb® TRP panels into place.
- When cutting Cellweb® TRP, please bear in mind that you will lose two internal cells per cut. Across a 8.1m long panel, this equates to a loss of 0.224m x 2 along the length or 0.259m x 2 across the width.

Cellweb® TRP - Installation Guide



Step 4: Clean Angular Stone



Step 5: Edge Restraints



Step 6: Surface Options

4. Infill the Clean Angular Stone

- The infill material must be a clean angular stone Type 4/20mm (see Note 4).
- Do not use M.O.T type 1 or crushed stone with fines for tree root protection.
- Infill the Cellweb® TRP cells with the clean angular stone, working towards the tree and using the infilled panels as a platform.
- Minimum 25mm overfill of clean angular stone when used in conjunction with a hard surface.
- No compaction is required of the infill. Do not use a whacker plate or other means of compaction.
- Encourage settlement of the stone with the use of a light roller or with 2-3 passes of the construction plant used for installation.
- If the clean angular stone is being used as the final surface; regular maintenance will be required to ensure a minimum overfill of 50mm.

5. Edge restraints

- Excavations for kerbs and edgings should be avoided within the RPAs.
- Where edging is required for footpath and light structures, a peg and treated timber board edging is acceptable
- Other options include wooden sleepers, kerb edging constructed on-top of the Cellweb® TRP system, plastic and metal edging etc.

6. Surface options

- All surfaces in Root Protection Areas must be porous. Surfaces can include porous block paving, porous asphalt, loose gravel, grass and gravel retention systems (e.g Golpla), resin bound gravel, concrete and astro turf.

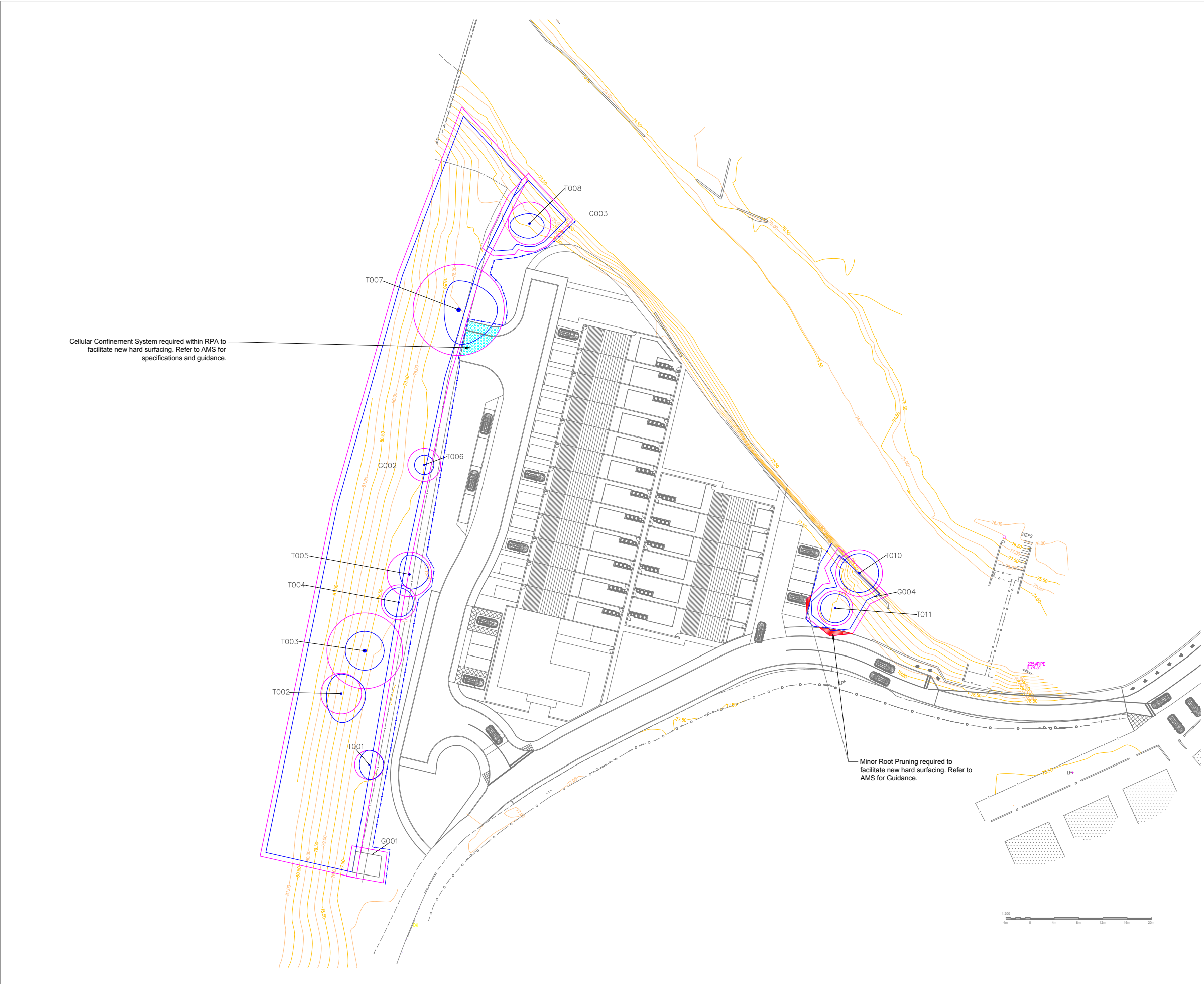
NOTES

1. **Herbicide:** According to BS5837:2012 "The use of herbicides in the vicinity of existing trees should be appropriate for the type of vegetation to be killed, and all instructions, warnings and other relevant information from the manufacturers should be strictly observed and followed. Care should be taken to avoid any damaging effects upon existing plants and trees to be retained, species to be introduced, and existing sensitive habitats, particularly those associated with aquatic or drainage features."
2. **Geotextile:** We recommend the installation of a Treetex™ under the Cellweb® TRP, or under the sub-base, if installed. The overlapping between adjacent rolls of Geotextile should be: CBR > 3%: 300mm minimum, CBR between 1% and 3%: 500mm minimum. CBR ≤ 1%: 750mm minimum.
3. **Staples:** Number of staples per join: 200mm: 5 staples. 150mm: 4 staples. 100mm: 3 staples. 75mm: 3 staples.
4. **Granular Fill:** Open graded sub-base, clean angular stone Type 4/20 or Type 20/40. Please refer to BS7533-13:2009 and to the Design Manual for Roads and Bridges (DMRB), Volume 4 Geotechnics and Drainage, Section 1 Earthworks, HA44/91, Volume 7 – IAN 73/06 Design Guidance for road pavement foundations and Manual of Contract Documents for Highway Works (MCHW), Volume 1 Specification for Highway Works for the construction and maintenance of the fill material.



DRAWINGS

Drawing 1 – Tree Protection Plan



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This drawing is copyright and is for use on this site only. This drawing should be read in conjunction with all relevant consultancy drawings and specialist subcontractors' supply chain drawings and specifications.
All works to be carried out in accordance with the latest British Standards / Codes of Practice unless specifically directed otherwise in the specification.
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Graphical representations of equipment on this drawing have been co-ordinated, but are approximations only. Please refer to the specifications and / or details for actual sizes and / or specific contractor construction information.

Notes:-

Category A tree, group or hedge

Category B tree, group or hedge

Category C tree, group or hedge

Category U tree, group or hedge

Root Protection Area (RPA)

Tree Protection Fencing

Cellular Confinement System

Minor Root Pruning

X01					
REV.					
	DATE	DESCRIPTION	DRAWN	CHK'D	
North West Tree Consultancy Ltd					
14 Whitecroft Avenue Shaw Oldham OL2 8HY					
Tel: 07852266946 email: info@northwesttreeconsultancy.co.uk web: www.northwesttreeconsultancy.co.uk					
Client: FRANSTEP LIMITED					
Project: WATERFOLD LANE, BURY					
Title: TREE PROTECTION PLAN					
Issue: PLANNING					
Drawn:	RG	Checked:	RG	Approved:	RG
Project:	NWTC/001	Scale @ A0:	1:200	Date:	08/05/2026
Dwg No:	NWTC-TPP-X01			Revision:	X01



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