**Tree Protection & Method Statement**

**This statement is provided in order to meet condition 3 set out in approval of planning application 20/2415/RSP. Discharge from this condition is now sought.**

**Tree Protection Plan**

1.1. The trees, shrubs and hedges will be protected from unnecessary damage during the construction process. Protection from damage is of paramount importance with the trees, shrubs and hedging in place all forming an important part of the privacy and ambience of the site. The stress caused by development near existing trees can, if provision for adequate protection is not made, be a strain that can severely damage the trees, hedges or shrubs or even result in their death.

1.2. Protection measures are outlined further below.

1.3. The ‘plot’ refers to the location of the pavilion. The plot is 5m wide and 3.35m deep and within 2.5m of a mature tree and thick hedging. The ‘site’ refers to the house and gardens.

1.4. No demolition of any existing structures is proposed. The ground slopes approximately 30cm over the 5m length and is flat across the width. A large part of the plot contained children’s swings until around 5 years ago that had a 15cm bark-filled ground surface that was replaced at that time with topsoil and turf. Mature tree roots in this area are unlikely to exist on the plot at the depths being excavated- 10cm at one end and none from around 2m along the length. It is important to note that the swings were at the higher end of the plot where soil and turf will be removed and transferred to the lower end of the plot.

1.5. The site excavation will be shallow with c 5cm to remove the surface turf and a further 5cm as long as there are no tree roots in excess of 2cm encountered.

**Purpose of a Method Statement**

1.6. The purpose of an Arboricultural Method Statement (AMS) is to safeguard all the retained trees, hedges and shrubs on site during the construction process. The following information sets out the methodology and approach for all proposed works that could affect such trees, hedging and shrubs.

1.7. Compliance with this AMS will be a requirement of all relevant contractors associated with the development, including initial groundworks, build of the pavilion and subsequent connection to electrical services.

1.8. Copies of this report will be available for inspection on Site and all personnel will be made aware of the key implications of the AMS.

﻿

**Movement of Materials**

1.9. Removal of material from the plot will be minimised by reusing as much of the lawn removed, top soil and other material removed from the higher end of the works as possible, either placed at the lower end of the plot or recycled elsewhere in the large garden of the site. Material removed will be via wheelbarrows along wooden planks to protect the roots and grass and a small skip will only be used if necessary - placed on the nearby tarmac driveway for any material that cannot be recycled or composted.

1.10. The pavilion is provided in kit form and constructed on site. Building materials will be moved into the plot via the existing paved pathway from the driveway to within 3m of the plot and then via boarding or planks protecting the grass surface or via a longer route from the other side of the house if more practical, with planks or boarding protecting the ground en route. Storage of building materials will be on the tarmac driveway for a very short period of 1 -2 days. Visiting vehicles will be parked on the house driveway and will not enter the plot.

**Tree protection measures**

1.11. No special fencing measures are required on this project as the construction is simple and very unlikely to cause any damage to tree trunks, hedging or shrubs. There is excellent access to the plot. No works to either trees or hedges are intended as a result of these works. However, the plot is within the tree roots protection areas. Any roots encountered that are close to the surface will only be carefully cut if they are less than 2cm thick. As a result of the shallowness of the foundations and the historical use of the plot excavation will be via hand tools. Thicker roots are not expected but if encountered will be sprayed with water regularly and protected with sharp sand as is appropriate to the situation encountered. The ground height of the foundations will be raised slightly if this issue is encountered. In the event of a sudden delay to the construction of the foundations once started that could impact tree roots, appropriate protective covers will be placed on the plot.

**Services**

1.12. In order to provide electricity to the pavilion an electrical service route from the house will be installed, under existing crazy paving pathway as far as possible- leaving approximately 5m via a protected cable approximately 5cm deep in the grass. This will be installed by a professional electrician in accordance with electrical regulations.

**Timetable**

1.13. Subject to normal issues that may cause delay (notably weather) resources may become unavailable as a result of Covid19 related shortages. This risk is low as the foundations are intended to be constructed over 2 days with a further 2 days to construct the wooden Pavilion.

**Other matters**

1.13. The following points will be observed during both advanced works and the construction process:

i) No fires will be lit on Site

ii) No materials, equipment or debris will be stored within the tree root protection area

III) If during construction, excessive levels of dust build-up on any trees, hedging or shrubs, it may be necessary to undertake remedial measures such as hosing down immediately with a clean water supply.