



ARBORICULTURAL METHOD STATEMENT

Arundel View Cottage, Wepham, West Sussex

-prepared on behalf of Mr Chris Griffin –

10 Southleigh Grove, Hayling Island, Hampshire PO11 0SH

- email [REDACTED]

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1.0 INTRODUCTION & CLIENTS BRIEF

- 1.1 I am instructed on this project by **Mr C Griffin** who owns **Arundel View Cottage, Wepham, West Sussex**.
- 1.2 My client wishes me to prepare an Arboricultural Method Statement in support of a planning application seeking approval for the extension of the existing garage to the west side to form a new combined garage and accommodation outbuilding.
- 1.3 There are on site trees which will need to be catered for in this process.
- 1.4 I have been commissioned to prepare a report to satisfy the arboricultural aspects of this project in accordance with BS5837:2012 recommendations.

2.0 DOCUMENT DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

I have been provided with copies of **Orefelt Associates Ltd.** scaled layout drawings showing the existing and new layouts in relation to the trees :-

Original Site Layout Plan – 3697- 01f -TP14 – 1:100 @ A3 – 30.11.23

Proposed Ground Floor Site Layout Plans - 3697- 01f -TP05 – 1:100 @ A3 – 30.11.23

Proposed Section Drawing - 3697- 01f -TP04 – Sections A & B - 1:100 @ A3 – 30.11.23

Proposed Section Drawing - 3697- 01f -TP04 – Sections C - 1:100 @ A3 – 30.11.23

Photos of Existing Layout – 3697 – 01f – TP07

3.0 TREE SURVEY & ROOT PROTECTION SCHEDULES & IMPACT ASSESSMENT

3.1 I visited the site on **5th October 2023** to undertake a tree survey exercise in accordance with BS5837:2012 recommendations (see also the explanatory tree survey notes [at appendix BH1](#)).

Tree No.	Species	Ht m	Diam mm	Brch Sprd m	GC m	LS	Comments	Preliminary Management Recommendations	Rem Con yrs	Cat
1	Copper Beech <i>Fagus sylvatica</i> 'Cuprea'	7	240	N 4.5 E 1.5 S 4.5 W 4.5	0	Y	Epicormics on trunk-bifurcated in mid crown area-pruned hard back on east face above road on a blind bend.	No works required at this time	>40	B1
2	Common Ash <i>Fraxinus excelsior</i>	12	440	N 6 E 6 S 6 W 3.5	2	SM	Part of a linear boundary screening belt of trees-small diameter deadwood present-previously reduced and reshaped at around 6m from ground-Pigeon browsing damage noted-no signs of Ash Dieback Disease as yet-low branches brushing the roof of the garage.	No works required at this time	>40	B1
3	Common Ash <i>Fraxinus excelsior</i>	12	380	N 6 E 3.5 S 6 W 3	2	SM	Part of a linear boundary screening belt of trees-small diameter deadwood present-previously reduced and reshaped at around 6m from ground-Pigeon browsing damage noted-no signs of Ash Dieback Disease as yet-low branches brushing the roof of the garage.	No works required at this time	>40	B1
4	Common Ash <i>Fraxinus excelsior</i>	12	430	N 6 E 3 S 6 W 6	2	SM	Part of a linear boundary screening belt of trees-small diameter deadwood present-previously reduced and reshaped at around 6m from ground-Pigeon browsing damage noted-no signs of Ash Dieback Disease as yet-low branches brushing the roof of the garage.	No works required at this time	>40	B1

3.2 A Tree Root Protection Schedule has been prepared in accordance with BS5837:2012 recommendations (see Plan BJH 01/02 at [appendix BH2](#)).

Tree No.	Tree Species	Cat	Diam mm	BS5837:2012 Table1 Radial Protection Zone m
1	Copper Beech <i>Fagus sylvatica</i> 'Cuprea'	B1	240	2.9
2	Common Ash <i>Fraxinus excelsior</i>	B1	440	5.3
3	Common Ash <i>Fraxinus excelsior</i>	B1	380	4.6
4	Common Ash <i>Fraxinus excelsior</i>	B1	430	5.2

4.0 IMPACT ASSESSMENT & TREE PROTECTION MEASURES RECOMMENDED

4.1 The finalised planning layout drawing has been provided to me and an assessment made as to the viability of retaining trees as part of this layout in order that they meet the RPZ requirements of BS5837 - the data is presented here in tabular format:-

Key: **NO-RSAM** = Remove for sound arboricultural management reasons **NO-RTFD** = Remove to facilitate development

YES = Yes can be retained and fully protected

YES (1) = Yes can be retained subject to mitigation measures being applied

Tree No	Species	Cat	Stem Diam mm	BS5837:2012 Radial Protection Zone m	Distance from Site Features & Comments (see key above)	Can Tree Be Retained
1	Copper Beech <i>Fagus sylvatica 'Cuprea'</i>	B1	240	2.9	8.8m to existing garage 1m to existing consolidated driveway 18m + to closest point of excavation works	YES
2	Common Ash <i>Fraxinus excelsior</i>	B1	440	5.3	1m to existing garage 8m to closest point of excavation works	YES
3	Common Ash <i>Fraxinus excelsior</i>	B1	380	4.6	1.2m to existing garage 2.7m to closest point of excavation works	YES (1)
4	Common Ash <i>Fraxinus excelsior</i>	B1	430	5.2	3.m to existing garage 1.2m to closest point of excavation works	YES (1)

Summary :

4.2 The required BS5837:2012 RPZ's can be fully met for two of the trees as the land is already built over or covered by a consolidated driveway with no disturbance proposed within the RPZ's.

4.3 For the remaining two trees works will be taking place well within their RPZ's so mitigation measures will need to be applied to ensure that they are not damaged and survive the development in a safe and healthy condition. Full details of the Method Statement for this process can be found at Section 6.7 of this AMS report.

5.0 RECOMMENDED TREE WORKS

No	Species	Tree Works Recommended
1	Copper Beech <i>Fagus sylvatica</i> 'Cuprea'	No works required at this time.
2	Common Ash <i>Fraxinus excelsior</i>	Recommend undertaking some crown lifting works to provide at least a 1m safe clearance from the roof of the new building. Remove all deadwood for safety reasons.
3	Common Ash <i>Fraxinus excelsior</i>	Recommend undertaking some crown lifting works to provide at least a 1m safe clearance from the roof of the new building. Remove all deadwood for safety reasons.
4	Common Ash <i>Fraxinus excelsior</i>	Recommend undertaking some crown lifting works to provide at least a 1m safe clearance from the roof of the new building. Remove all deadwood for safety reasons.

6.0 METHOD STATEMENT

Generic Protection Measures

- 6.1 Erect the protective fencing as specified and shown on the **Tree Protection Plan BJH03/04**. *In this instance due to the confined working space it will not be possible to erect standard HERAS fence panels but instead some form of boxed hoarding [see diagram at appendix BH3] will need to be erected to protect the tree trunks ideally up to the height of the first branches and also extend outwards to protect any surface rooting.*
- 6.2 Barriers are to be 'Fit For Purpose' to exclude construction activity and must be maintained to ensure that they remain rigid and complete and in the original setting out positions.
- 6.3 A Pre-Commencement Meeting will need to be scheduled to inspect and verify that the Tree Protection measures are adequate *before any demolition or construction works take place out on site.*
- 6.4 The following prohibitions shall apply within the area enclosed by the Tree Protection Fencing [**Construction Exclusion Zone**]:-
- No mechanical digging or scraping is to be carried out within the site fenced off zone.
 - No storage of plant, equipment or materials within the site fenced off zone.
 - No vehicular or plant access within the site fenced off zone.
 - No fire lighting within the site fenced off zone.
 - No handling, discharge or spillage of any chemical substance, including cement washings within the site fenced off zone.
 - No action likely to cause localised water-logging is to be carried out within the site fenced off zone.
 - No change in ground levels is to occur within the site fenced off zone.
- 6.5 All site works storage areas and compounds/welfare units/toilet blocks and any mixing areas are to be located outside the fenced off zone and ideally positioned over impervious surfaces or over special catchment areas such that any leakage will be captured and cannot leak into the soil causing contamination.
- 6.6 The full details of the proposed utility service links have not been made available to me at this time but there should be no need to install these within the fenced off zones. It is most likely that these will link back into the main house utility network well outside tree RPZ's. However, if this situation changes, and in the event that there is a conflict with a retained trees RPZ, then a separate Mini Method Statement would need to be submitted to cover this work.

Site Specific Protection Measures

6.7

The overlap of the two tree RPZ's of trees 3 & 4 necessitates mitigation measures be applied to ensure the safe and healthy retention of these trees. With the protective hoarding erected around trees 3 & 4 continue to the next phase of work.

A Structural Engineering Company (Price & Myers) have assessed the loadings of the building and designed an appropriate size and spacing for the screw piles.

A Mini Tracked Piling Rig can be introduced to site to drive the screw piles into the ground. This vehicle must run over protected ground at all times (ground protection to be in accordance with BS5837:2012 Section 6.3.3.3 recommendations).

Mark out on the ground with paint spray where each screw pile is to be located and then using a hand operated soil auger preliminarily explore each location to make sure that no major roots are present. **IF** a tree root is encountered then the hole must be carefully backfilled and moved to one side or the other to avoid contact with same.

Once the locations have been cleared for use the screw piling may commence.

Caps will then need to be formed over the screw piles [using wooden formers] and these can be set into the ground by up to a maximum of 100mm provided that the excavation work for same is carried out with hand tools **ONLY** and no machinery is involved.

Reinforced lintels will then be laid to connect between the pile caps and these will need to support a suspended reinforced floor to avoid any excavation work and potential adverse impact on tree roots.

This will then form a stable base for the new structure and ensure minimal ground disturbance for the tree roots and original ground contouring will have been fully respected.

7.0 SITE MONITORING & SUPERVISION

- 7.1 A Pre-commencement site meeting will need to be scheduled to take place between the development teams arboricultural consultant and the site manager and client representative where the tree protection measures - including the hoarding boxes and ground protection measures will be inspected to verify that they are 'Fit For Purpose' as shown on the **Tree Protection Plan at appendix BH3**.
- 7.2 This is an example of the format for the **Site Monitoring Schedule** that would be prepared ready for submission to the local authority planners on completion of each site supervision visit:-

Schedule Of Site Monitoring & Supervision for – Arundel View Cottage, The Street, Wepham

In accordance with the Arboricultural Method Statement Report - 1325.bjh.Dec23 & Tree Protection Plan - BJH 03/04

Date of Inspection	Item	In Attendance	Notes/Observations From Inspection	Details Of Any Follow Up Action Required
tba	Pre-Commencement Tree Protection Measures	Site Owner/Site Manager & Project Arboricultural Expert		
tba	Supervision of Screw Piling Operations	Site Owner/Site Manager & Project Arboricultural Expert		

8.0 CONCLUSIONS

This development layout entails no direct tree loss so the only issue to consider here is whether the tree protection measures proposed are sufficient to protect the on site trees and ensure that they survive the development work without adverse impact to their health and vitality.

Standard trench footings would cut directly across the roots systems of trees 3 & 4 potentially destabilising them so this has been vetoed in favour of a Screw Piling form of foundation and support for the extended part of the building.

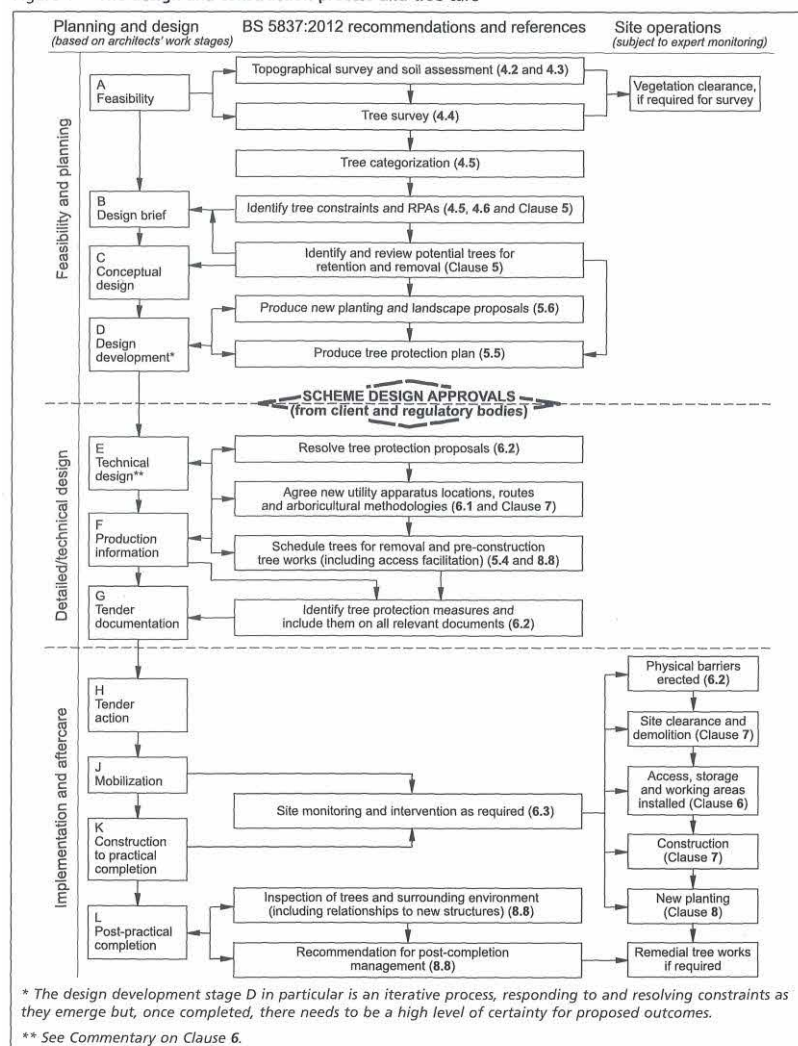
Provided that the methodology set out in this report is strictly adhered to in a carefully considered and phased and supervised manner then I would not foresee any detrimental impact taking place that might undermine the ongoing health and stability or visual amenity value of those trees shown for retention.



BH 1

Figure 1 - Flow Diagram
& Tree Survey Notes

Figure 1 The design and construction process and tree care



TREE SURVEY NOTES

These Tree Survey Notes have been prepared in accordance with the recommendations of **British Standard 5837:2012** and they define the criteria for pre –development tree surveys. Each tree/group/hedge/shelterbelt/woodland has been allocated a unique number (**No.**) where specifically requested and appropriate fees are agreed small durable numbered metal tags can be applied to each tree/group surveyed.

The tree species (**Species**) is provided in both English and Latin name formats.

Height assessments (**Ht**) are estimated in metres. This will be adequate for the majority of cases, but where accurate heights become a critical issue it may be necessary to return to site, as a separately commissioned exercise, to collect accurate measurements with the aid of optical instruments.

Trunk/stem diameters (**Diam**) are measured in millimetres **at 1.5m above ground level** – where the tree is inaccessible the diameter is estimated as indicated by suffix #

Radial crown spread assessments (**Brch Sprd**) are estimated in metres from the centre of the trunk/group to each of the four primary points of the compass (**N**-north; **E**-east; **S**-south and **W**-west) in order to achieve a representation of the crown shape which will be shown on the accompanying tree survey plan. These provide a general guide as to the main bulk outline of a tree/groups crown but **are not tape measured dimensions**. These would only be undertaken as part of a separately commissioned exercise, where precise dimensions are critical to the project at hand.

Both the canopy ground clearance (**GC**) and the height & compass direction of the lowest major branch (**LMB**) are estimated and shown in metres

An assessment of a tree/groups ‘life stage’ (**LS**) is made in terms of its site specific maturity as part of the surrounding landscape, taking into account its overall shape and form in that setting, and is recorded thus :-

Y - Young tree/group; **SM** - Semi-Mature tree/group; **EM** - Early-Mature tree/group;

M – Mature tree/group; **OM** - Over – mature tree/group

Data on the structural condition (**Condition Comments**) of the tree/group is provided to give its visual appearance and any significant health and safety issues.

Details of any recommended tree works required at the time of survey is given under the heading – **Preliminary Management Recommendations**.

An estimate of a tree/groups remaining contribution in years (**RC**) is made and is recorded thus :- **0-5; 5-10; 10-20; 20-30; 30-40** or **>40** years.

The category grading (**Cat**) for each tree/group is assessed according to the criteria provided within **BS5837:2012**. The assessment is made of the tree/group in its current condition and within the environment encountered bearing in mind its suitability for retention as part of any future proposed

development; although the exact layout detail of any specific scheme will not be known at the time of surveying. The trees have been classified into one of four categories and colour coded as BS5837 recommends :- **U** (dark red); **A** (light green); **B** (mid-blue) and **C** (grey). Please note that suffixed numerical sub-categories are also applied for guidance only and do not carry any cumulative or increased value for the tree/group. This colour coding scheme will be applied to all drawings provided.

Table 1 – Cascade chart for tree quality assessment

Category and definition	Criteria			Colour on plan
Trees unsuitable for retention				
Category U Those in such a condition that they cannot realistically be retained as living trees in the context of the current land use for longer than 10 years.	<p>Trees that have a serious, irremediable, structural defect, such that their early loss is expected due to collapse, including those that will become unviable after removal of other category U trees (i.e. where, for whatever reason the loss of companion shelter cannot be mitigated by pruning)</p> <p>Trees that are dead or are showing signs of significant, immediate, and irreversible overall decline</p> <p>Trees infected with pathogens of significance to the health and/or safety of other trees nearby, or very low quality trees suppressing adjacent trees of better quality</p> <p>NOTE Category U trees can have existing or potential conservation value which it might be desirable to preserve.</p>			Dark Red
Trees to be considered for retention				
	Criteria – Subcategories			
	1	2	3	
Category A Trees of high quality with an estimated remaining life expectancy of at least 40 years	Trees that are particularly good examples of their species, especially if rare or unusual, or those that are essential components of groups or formal or semi-formal arboricultural features (e.g. the dominant and/or principal trees within an avenue)	Trees, groups or woodlands of particular visual importance as arboricultural and /or landscape features	Trees, groups or woodlands of significant conservation, historical, commemorative or other value (e.g. veteran trees or wood-pasture)	Light Green
Category B Trees of moderate quality with an estimated remaining life expectancy of at least 20 years	Trees that might be included in the category A, but are downgraded because of impaired condition (e.g. presence of significant though remediable defects including unsympathetic past management and storm damage), such that they are unlikely to be suitable for retention for beyond 40 years; or trees lacking the special quality necessary to merit the category A designation	Trees present in numbers, usually growing as groups or woodlands, such that they attract a higher collective rating than they might as individuals; or trees occurring as collectives but situated so as to make little visual contribution to the wider locality	Trees with material conservation or other cultural value	Mid Blue
Category C Trees of low quality with an estimated remaining life expectancy of at least 10 years, or young trees with a stem diameter below 150mm	Unremarkable trees of very limited merit or such impaired condition that they do not qualify in higher categories	Trees present in groups or woodlands, but without this conferring on them significantly greater collective landscape value, and/or trees offering low or only temporary/transient landscape benefits	Trees with no material conservation or other cultural value	Grey



BH 2

Tree Survey & Root Protection Plans

BJH 01/02



BH 3

Tree Protection Plan BJH 03/04

+ BS5837 Section 6.2.3.3 Extract
+ Boxed Hoarding Tree Protection Example

BS5837:2012 – Section 6.2.3.3 - 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.

Note The ground protection might comprise one of the following:

- a) 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. 100mm depth of woodchip), laid onto a geotextile membrane;
- b) 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. 150mm depth of woodchip), laid onto a geotextile membrane;
- c) for wheeled or tracked construction traffic exceeding 2t gross weight, an alternative system (e.g. proprietary systems or pre-cast reinforced concrete slabs) to an engineering specification designed in conjunction with arboricultural advice, to accommodate the likely loading to which it will be subjected.



BH 4

Qualifications & Experience



QUALIFICATIONS AND EXPERIENCE

My name is **Bernie Harverson** and I am a self employed independent arboricultural consultant in private practice. I take instructions primarily in the South of England but also on occasions work nationwide and abroad and have offices at : –

10 Southleigh Grove, Hayling Island, Hampshire PO11 0SH

I hold the following arboricultural qualification – **National Diploma in Arboriculture (Royal Forestry Society – 1976)**

I have **fifty-three (53)** years of practical and managerial experience in the arboricultural industry including periods in both the public and private sectors.

My Local Government sector experience comprises one year as a tree surgeon with Brighton Parks and nine years spent in Arboricultural Officer posts with both Westminster City Council and Portsmouth City Council.

My past practical experience in the private sector includes two years at Tilhill Forest Nursery and over ten years for various companies as a Climbing Arborist/Tree Surgeon.

Managerial work in the private sector includes two years as manager of Beechings Tree Surgeons and twelve years with CBA Trees as Managing Director & Senior Arboricultural Consultant.

As an independent self employed Arboricultural Consultant I now provide a comprehensive range of services including :-

tree surveys, appraisals, assessments and inspections with particular reference to planning and development and tree safety audits with a service offered as a climber to undertake full climbing inspections to better understand the condition of a given tree before prescribing a management strategy.

I also undertake litigation work appearing as an Expert Witness in Court Actions and at Planning Appeals, Hearings and Public Local Inquiries.

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