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ARBORICULTURAL IMACT ASSESSMENT AND METHOD STATEMENT

Site address:

Rosebank, Webbs Lane, Abbots Ann

15 February 2024

Ref: AIAMS22-1002



- 1 -



ARBORICULTURAL ASSESSMENT AND METHOD STATEMENT

Site address: Rosebank, Webbs Lane, Abbots Ann
Instructed by: Dawn Rose of Luke Rose Architect
Prepared by: Thomas Gregory DipArbL4 (ABC) TechArborA
Date: Thursday, 15 February 2024
Report Ref: AIAMS22-1002

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1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 SCOPE

I have been instructed by Dawn Rose or Luke Rose Architect to prepare an Arboricultural Assessment and Method Statement to cover of all trees located within the site and those offsite that may influence development and to demonstrate that the proposed development is achievable in arboricultural terms.

This report has been produced in accordance with British Standard 5837:2012 Trees in relation to design, demolition and construction – Recommendations (BS5837). It is intended to demonstrate the site's arboricultural constraints and assist in the design process. The objective is to assess the trees and other vegetation onsite and provide suitable recommendations regarding the proposal's potential impact on trees and vice versa.

1.2 TREE SURVEY OUTLINE

Visual inspection of the trees within the site boundary was undertaken from ground level using binoculars where necessary. All implicated trees have been given a unique reference number and their position plotted to a survey drawing. A schedule was prepared listing tree number, common name, stem diameter at 1.5m above ground level (or in accordance with Annex C of BS5837), approximate tree height, crown spread (cardinal points), crown clearance and age class. Any specific observations or recommendations with regard to management were also noted.

Each tree was assessed and assigned to one of the following categories:

- Category A: those of high quality and value with an estimated remaining life expectancy of at least 40 years.
- Category B: those of moderate quality and value with an estimated remaining life expectancy of at least 20 years.
- Category C: those of low quality and value with an estimated remaining life expectancy of at least 10 years or young trees with a stem diameter of less than 150mm.
- 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.

In order to avoid damage to the roots or rooting environment of retained trees, the root protection area (RPA) has been calculated for each of the Category A, B and C trees. This is a minimum area around a tree which is deemed to contain sufficient roots and rooting volume to maintain the tree's viability. Protection of the roots and soil structure

in this area should be considered a priority. These figures have been calculated using the formulas within Section 4.6 and Annex D of BS5837.

Trees are living, dynamic organisms. Their size, health and overall condition changes as they grow and can be affected by external conditions. For this reason, the arboricultural development survey and any management recommendations given are valid for a period not exceeding one calendar year from the date on which the survey was carried out.

No soil test was carried out whilst onsite and so the soil type is unknown.

1.3 STATUTORY TREE PROTECTION

No formal checks have been made by Plane Arboriculture Limited with the local planning authority in respect of statutory tree protection although it is understood that the site is located on the edge of the Conservation Area. It is strongly recommended that the local planning authority is contacted prior to any works being carried out and an application submitted if appropriate. This is to ensure that necessary permissions are sought if required to avoid an offence being committed.

1.4 PROTECTED SPECIES

It is strongly recommended that trees are checked for protected species before works are undertaken. It is against the law to disturb bats or their roosts under the Conservation of Habitat and Species Regulations. Nesting birds are protected by the Wildlife and Countryside Act. If protected species are discovered, Natural England should be contacted for advice.

2 ARBORICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT SURVEY

The 'Tree Survey Schedule' can be found in 'Appendix 1' and the 'Tree Constraints Plan' can be found in Appendix 2'.

2.1 TIME OF SURVEY

The survey was undertaken in the morning of Friday 4th February 2022.

2.2 GROUND AND SITE CONDITIONS

The site in question is a residential property accessed via private driveway.

The site requires consideration from an arboricultural perspective due to the presence of multiple trees located onsite.

2.3 TREE ASSESSMENT

A total of 4 individual trees are located on land adjacent to the site and the objective assessment resulted in BS5837 category of 'C' being attributed to them.

The four low quality individual trees ('C' and/or 'U' category trees) represent little importance from an arboricultural perspective and should not constrain the site layout.

The survey data and site observations have been used to illustrate the site's arboricultural restrictions in the form of a Tree Constraints Plan (TCP) which can be found at Appendix 2.

3 ARBORICULTURAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT

The 'Arboricultural Impact Assessment Plan' can be found in 'Appendix 3'. In order to achieve the protection of trees which are suitable for retention, the potential impact on trees and their environment from the proposed development should be considered and vice versa.

3.1 DESIGN AND LAYOUT

The design and layout of the site requires the removal of T1, T2 and T4, all of which are category 'C' trees. As these represent little importance from an arboricultural perspective the impact of the proposals is considered to be acceptable in arboricultural terms.

With limited visibility from the public domain, their loss is unlikely to have a negative impact on local amenity and the development does provide an opportunity to implement a new landscape scheme with additional tree planting. One birch and two cherries are proposed which will become more visible from the public domain in maturity than those lost.

3.2 UTILITIES AND SERVICES

Any underground services required will need to respect the root protection areas of the retained trees and should be carefully planned to avoid location within the root protection area.

3.3 CONSTRUCTION ACTIVITIES

All deliveries, parking, associated vehicle movements, materials storage and handling, and site welfare provision should also respect root protection areas of retained trees.

3.4 TREE WORK RECOMMENDATIONS

In the interests of maintaining good quality tree cover and in order to facilitate the development, three trees are to be removed. Any additional work shall be in accordance with BS3998:2010 Tree Work – Recommendations.

3.5 CONCLUSION

I am content that this development is achievable in arboricultural terms subject to various tree protection measures specified and adhered to during the construction process.

I am also content that there is sufficient scope for suitable mitigation planting to overcome the loss of the three trees that require removal to facilitate this development.

4 ARBORICULTURAL METHOD STATEMENT

The 'Tree Protection Plan' can be found in 'Appendix 4'.

The root protection areas of the principal trees have been assessed and the findings recorded in the tree survey and illustrated on the Tree Protection Plan. As some of these trees are vulnerable to inadvertent damage from this proposed development, the following guidance shall be observed to prevent damage or other long-term harm.

4.1 GENERAL REQUIREMENTS

A hard copy of the arboricultural method statement and tree protection plan shall remain onsite for the duration of demolition, construction and landscaping works and be available to site operatives at all times. All operatives at the site shall be briefed about tree related factors as part of their site induction.

Any variation from the methodology described in this method statement shall be discussed with the supervising arboriculturalist and agreed with the Local Planning Authority.

4.2 SITE ACCESS

The access to and from the site for development purposes shall be via the existing entrance. Depending on the type and size of vehicles accessing the site, a banksman shall be employed to oversee delivery arrivals and unloading to ensure that materials and plant are all delivered outside of the root protection areas.

Any inadvertent damage to trees and hedgerows which occurs shall be immediately referred to the Local Planning Authority and any pruning works deemed necessary and consented by the Local Planning Authority shall be in accordance with BS3998:2010 Tree Work – Recommendations.

4.3 TREE WORK RECOMMENDATIONS

In the interests of maintaining good quality tree cover and in order to facilitate the development, three trees will require removing. The tree work recommendations are recorded in the 'Tree Works Schedule' which can be found at Appendix 1.

This shall be carried out as the first stage of development and shall be in accordance with BS3998:2010 Tree Work – Recommendations.

Trees shall be checked for protected species before works are undertaken. It is against the law to disturb bats or their roosts under the Conservation of Habitat and Species Regulations. Nesting birds are protected by the Wildlife and Countryside Act. If protected species are discovered, Natural England shall be contacted for advice.

4.4 TREE PROTECTION BARRIERS

The root protection areas of retained trees must be left free from disturbance, and protected from contamination or compaction during the proposed works.

Following the initial tree works, but prior to any construction traffic entering the site, tree protection barriers shall be installed as per BS5837:2012 Figure 3 (a copy of which can be found in 'Appendix 5'). These barriers shall be robust and fit for purpose and shall be installed as shown on the 'Tree Protection Plan'.

Tree protection fencing notices shall be printed off in colour and laminated and shall be securely fixed to the tree protection barriers at 5m intervals, this can be found in 'Appendix 6'.

The areas protected by fencing shall be referred to as the construction exclusion zones.

The following actions shall be prohibited within the construction exclusion zones:

- Vehicular access;
- Regular pedestrian access unless on suitable ground protection;
- Storage of construction materials;
- Storage or handling of harmful chemicals;
- Any change in ground level;
- Construction activities including hard surfacing.

The barriers and notices are then to remain until such time as all external works in relation to the construction of the new development and any hard surfacing is complete.

In the event that works are paused, the protection barriers may be temporarily removed until such time that works continue.

4.5 MATERIALS AND CONSTRUCTION EQUIPMENT

Materials storage and handling, contractor parking, site welfare activities etc shall be kept away from the root protection areas.

Provision needs to be made to avoid the storage and handling of harmful chemicals in proximity to trees. Harmful chemicals include fuels, oils, builder's sand (which has a high salt content) and cement. Cement mixing shall only occur where there is no potential for cement washings to leech into a root protection area. Provision shall also be made to prevent fuelling or the handling of cement from occurring in areas proposed for further planting.

A suitable location for site cabins, contractor parking and site facilities for operatives shall be agreed with the project arboriculturalist during a pre-commencement meeting.

These facilities shall be located outside the root protection areas of retained trees (unless on retained tarmac surfaces). Provision must also be taken to prevent exhaust

fumes or hot air from generators or kitchen facilities from damaging the canopies of retained trees.

4.6 UTILITIES AND SERVICES

All new above and below-ground services shall be arranged and routed to avoid the root protection areas of the retained trees. Any existing underground services etc. which are to be reused but are found to require work or renewal, shall be reinstated whilst respecting the root protection area requirements.

All machinery, materials and any operations shall be kept off the root protection areas and works shall be carried out in accordance with NJUG10 'Guidelines for the planning, installation and maintenance of utilities in proximity to trees' and BS5837: 2012.

4.7 RESTRICTED ACTIVITIES

During the course of works onsite, all potentially tree-harmful operations such as, but not restricted to: the mixing of concrete, cement, paint, stain or adhesives; the storage or handling of tools and materials; the provision of staff welfare facilities such as portable chemical toilets; or the storage of skips and construction waste – shall be restricted to areas outside the root protection areas of the retained trees. Particular care shall be taken to assess any levels and falls across the site, and to prevent accidental run-off of potentially harmful substances into the root protection areas of the retained trees, and to neighbouring land. Specific areas for the storage and handling of materials, the mixing of products and the disposal of potentially plant-harmful substances shall be identified and specifically allocated for these operations and activities. There shall be no fires on the site whatsoever.

4.8 SUPERVISION

Arboricultural supervision will be required for the following stages of development:

- To sign off that the tree protection barriers have been installed in the correct locations and to the agreed specification.
- To review the routing of new services and to provide guidance on best practice for installation where necessary.
- To ensure the prescribed methodology is followed for construction works within the root protection areas.

4.9 TREE PLANTING

Three new trees are proposed: one silver birch and two cherries; along with further planting to improve the site boundaries; and much more throughout the site. Positions can be seen on the 'Tree Protection Plan' which can be found in 'Appendix 4'.

The trees proposed shall be planted during the months of November to February following completion of the development. They shall be 'Selected Standard' with a girth of 10-12cm measured at 1m above ground level and an overall height of approximately 3-3.5m.

A square pit shall be excavated by hand to a sufficient depth to accommodate the container/root ball and a minimum of 300mm wider. A proprietary irrigation pipe system such as RootRain or similar shall be installed to facilitate watering where soil resource and natural water availability is limited.

The tree shall be supported with two tree stakes and a cross spar. The overall length of the stakes shall be sufficient to ensure that they are firm when driven into the soil and that the top of the stake extends above ground level to approximately one third of the tree's height. Stakes shall be whole sections of softwood timber of 75 mm top diameter. Stakes shall be driven into the tree pit before positioning the tree. A 100mm x 30mm section cross shall be secured to the posts with galvanised nails. The tree tie shall utilise a rubber collar to ensure that tree and stake do not touch in any place. All timber shall be peeled and pressure treated in accordance with BS 4072.

The backfill medium shall be as close as possible in texture and structure to the soil excavated from the tree pit. By preference soils excavated from the tree pit should be used as backfill, replaced to replicate the natural soil profile.

If soil analysis indicated that modifications to the soil are necessary, soil ameliorants may be used sparingly. Tree planting compost should be entirely free of peat; proprietary products based on composted straw, manure or coir are acceptable, but products based on wood chips or bark should not be used. Recycled compost material must comply with BS PAS100.

A 50mm - 100mm depth layer of Medium Grade bark mulch shall be applied to the surface of the weed free tree pit after planting and watering. Bark mulch shall be free of pests, disease, fungus and weeds.

4.10 ARBORICULTURAL COMPLETION

Once the development is completed, the tree protective fencing shall be carefully dismantled by hand and the adjacent trees shall be visually inspected for any signs of

damage related to the development. If any damage is noted, appropriate advice shall be sought.

These arboricultural details shall be referenced against Arboricultural Development Survey ADS22-1002 dated 4th February 2022 and the Tree Protection Plan.

4.11 CONCLUSION

I am content that this development is achievable in arboricultural terms provided the above method statement is adhered to and would expect to see the Local Planning Authority place appropriate and reasonable conditions on this application in relation to tree protection measures.

5 APPENDICES

| | | |
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5.1 APPENDIX 1 – TREE WORK SCHEDULE

6

KEY:

| Height | |
|--------|------------------------------------|
| | Overall height estimated in metres |

| Crown clearance | |
|-----------------|--|
| | Height of clearance from ground level to the lowest branches estimated in metres |

| Stem Diameter | |
|---------------|--|
| | Measured to the nearest 10mm at 1.5m above ground level unless otherwise stated (*average stem diameter) |

| Age Class | |
|--------------|---|
| Young | tree within first quarter of average life expectancy |
| Early-mature | tree within second quarter of average life expectancy |
| Semi-mature | tree within third quarter of average life expectancy |
| Mature | tree within final quarter of average life expectancy |
| Over-mature | tree beyond average life expectancy |

| Canopy Spread | |
|---------------|--|
| | Canopy spread measured in metres (Cardinal Points) |

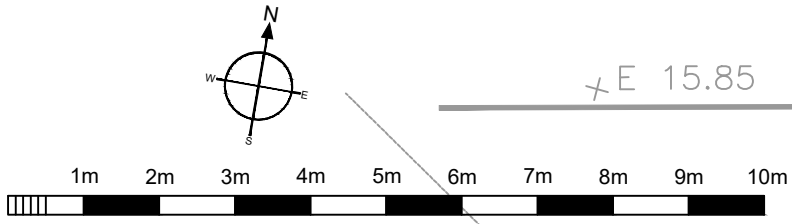
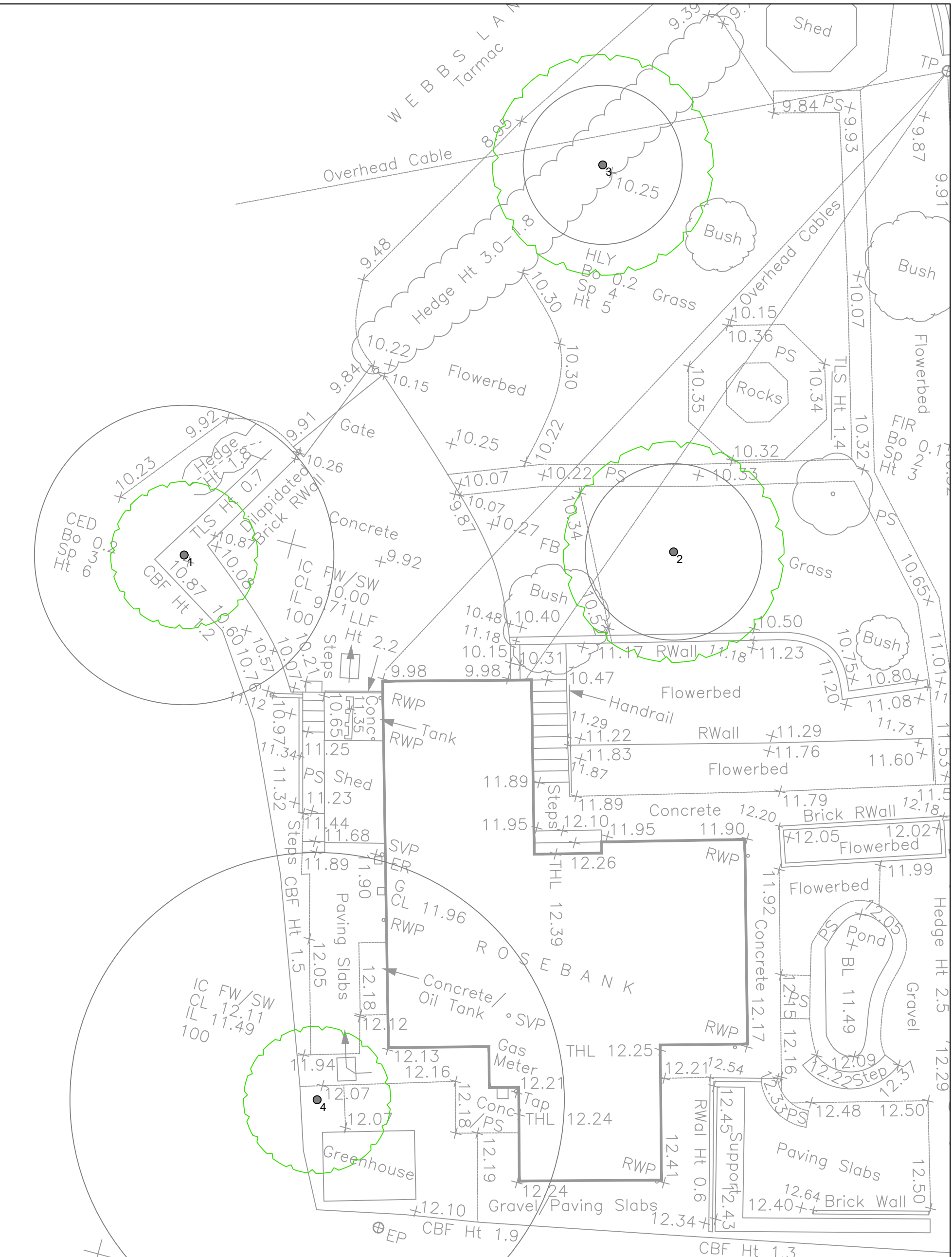
| Physiological Condition | |
|-------------------------|--|
| Good | no health problems |
| Fair | symptoms of health problems that may be easily remedied |
| Poor | symptoms of health problems that cannot easily be remedied |
| Dead | dead |

| Structural Condition | |
|----------------------|--|
| Good | no structural defects |
| Fair | structural defects that may be easily remedied |
| Poor | structural defects that cannot realistically be remedied |

| | | | |
|---------------------|------------------|----------------------------------|--------------------------|
| Survey date: | Surveyor: | Site: | Report reference: |
| 04-Feb-22 | Thomas Gregory | Rosebank, Webbs Lane, Abbots Ann | ADS22-1002 |

| Tree reference number | Common Name | Height (m) | Number of Stems | Stem diameter 1 (cm) | Stem diameter 2 (cm) | Stem diameter 3 (cm) | Stem diameter 4 (cm) | Stem diameter 5 (cm) | Canopy Spread N (m) | Canopy Spread S (m) | Canopy Spread E (m) | Canopy Spread W (m) | Height of crown clearance (m) | Age class | Physiological condition | Structural condition | Category grading | Preliminary management recommendations | Notes |
|-----------------------|-------------|------------|-----------------|----------------------|----------------------|----------------------|----------------------|----------------------|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------|-------------------------------|--------------|-------------------------|----------------------|------------------|---|---|
| 1 | Cypress | 8 | 2 | 24 | 24 | | | | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 1 | Early-mature | Fair | Fair | C | Fell in order to facilitate development | Front of property on raised bank adjacent vehicular access, limited visibility from public domain |
| 2 | Apple | 4 | 1 | 20 | | | | | 3 | 3 | 3 | 3 | 0 | Early-mature | Fair | Fair | C | Fell in order to facilitate development | Central in front garden, limited visibility from public domain |
| 3 | Holly | 4 | 1 | 18 | | | | | 3 | 3 | 3 | 3 | 2 | Young | Fair | Fair | C | n/a | Close to property boundary in view from highway |
| 4 | Yew | 6 | 1 | 56 | | | | | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 1 | Semi-mature | Fair | Fair | C | Fell in order to facilitate development | On property boundary to side out of view from public domain |

5.2 APPENDIX 2 – TREE CONSTRAINTS PLAN



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| | |
|--|------------|
| Site: Rosebank, Webbs Lane, Abbots Ann, SP11 7DD | 1:100 @ A3 |
| Drawing Title: Tree Constraints Plan | Feb 2022 |

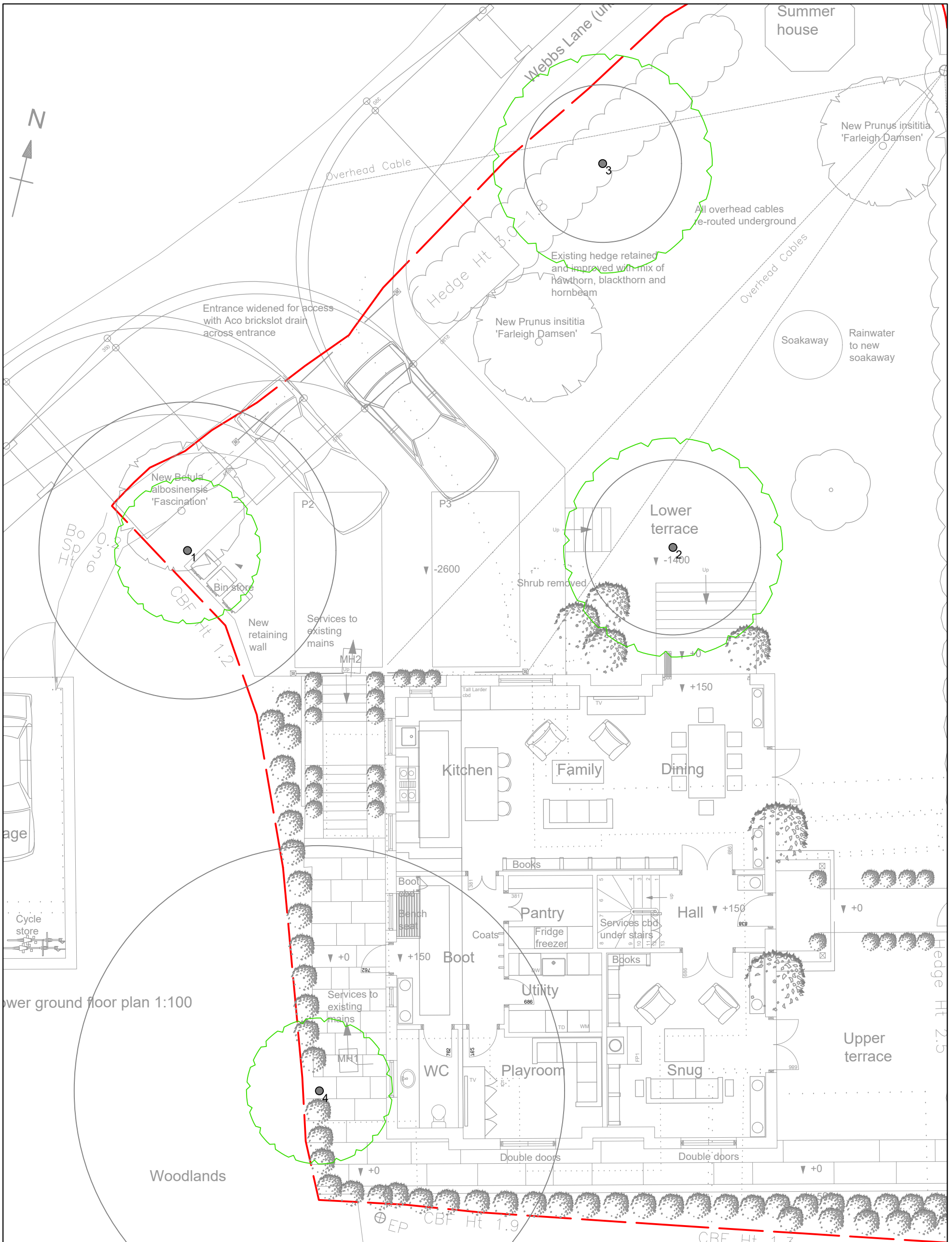
Key:

- Category A
- Category B
- Category C
- Category U

Category — Crown Spread
 Root Protection Area — Tree Number

NOTE: Tree/group numbers marked with an * have approximate locations.

5.3 APPENDIX 3 – ARBORICULTURAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT



Lower ground floor plan 1:100

Proposed ground floor plan 1:100

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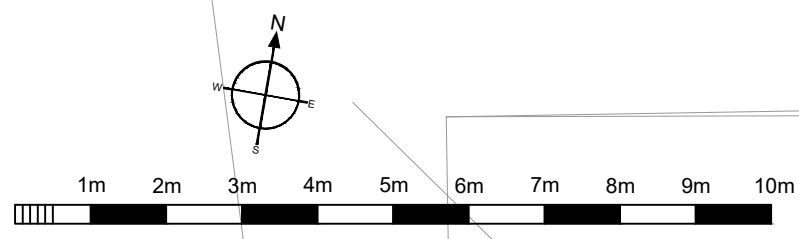
Site: Rosebank, Webbs Lane, Abbots Ann, SP11 7DD 1:100 @ A3
 Drawing Title: Arboricultural Impact Assessment Rev B, Feb 2024

Key:

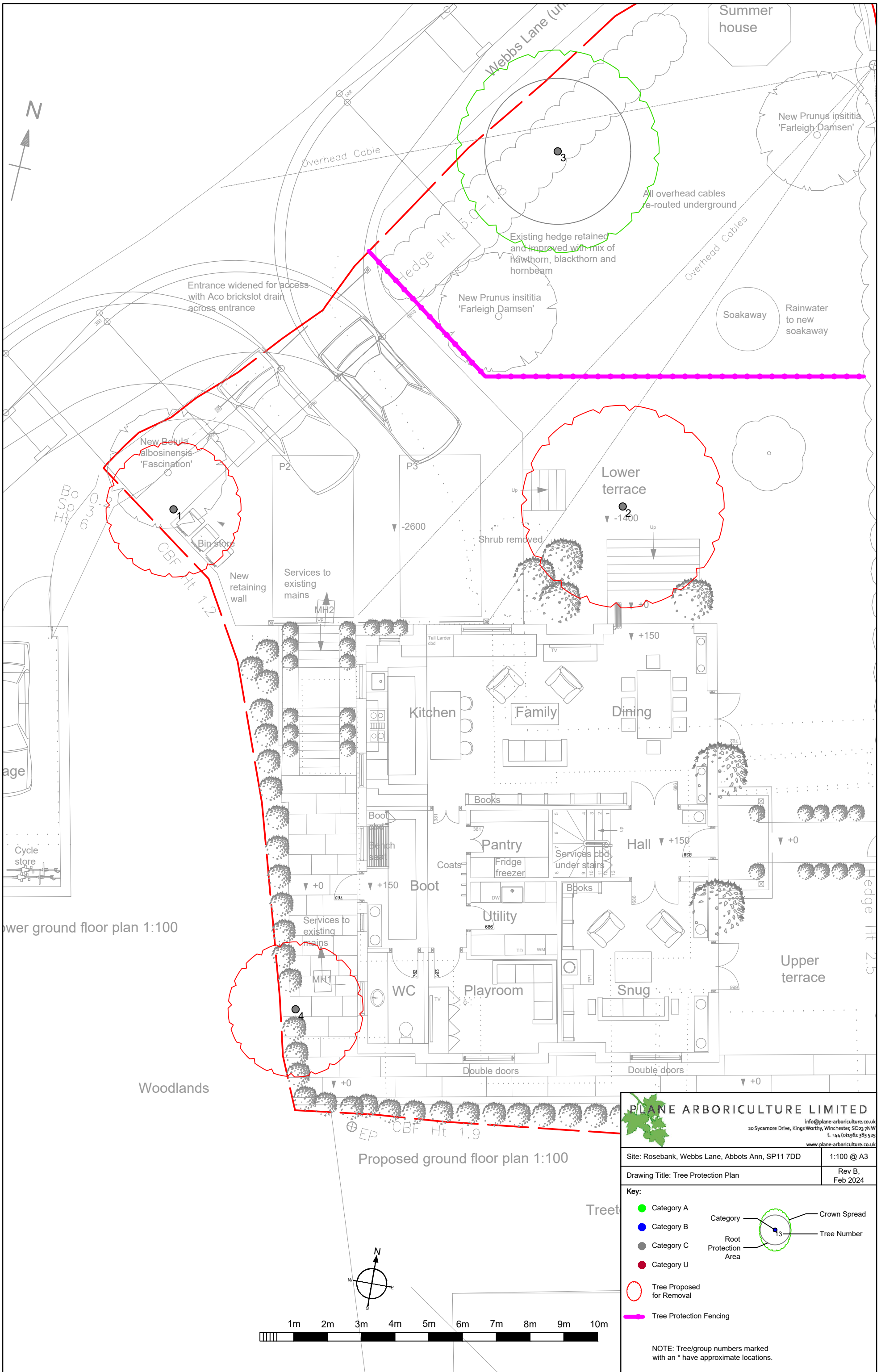
- Category A
- Category B
- Category C
- Category U

Category — Crown Spread
 Tree Number
 Root Protection Area

NOTE: Tree/group numbers marked with an * have approximate locations.

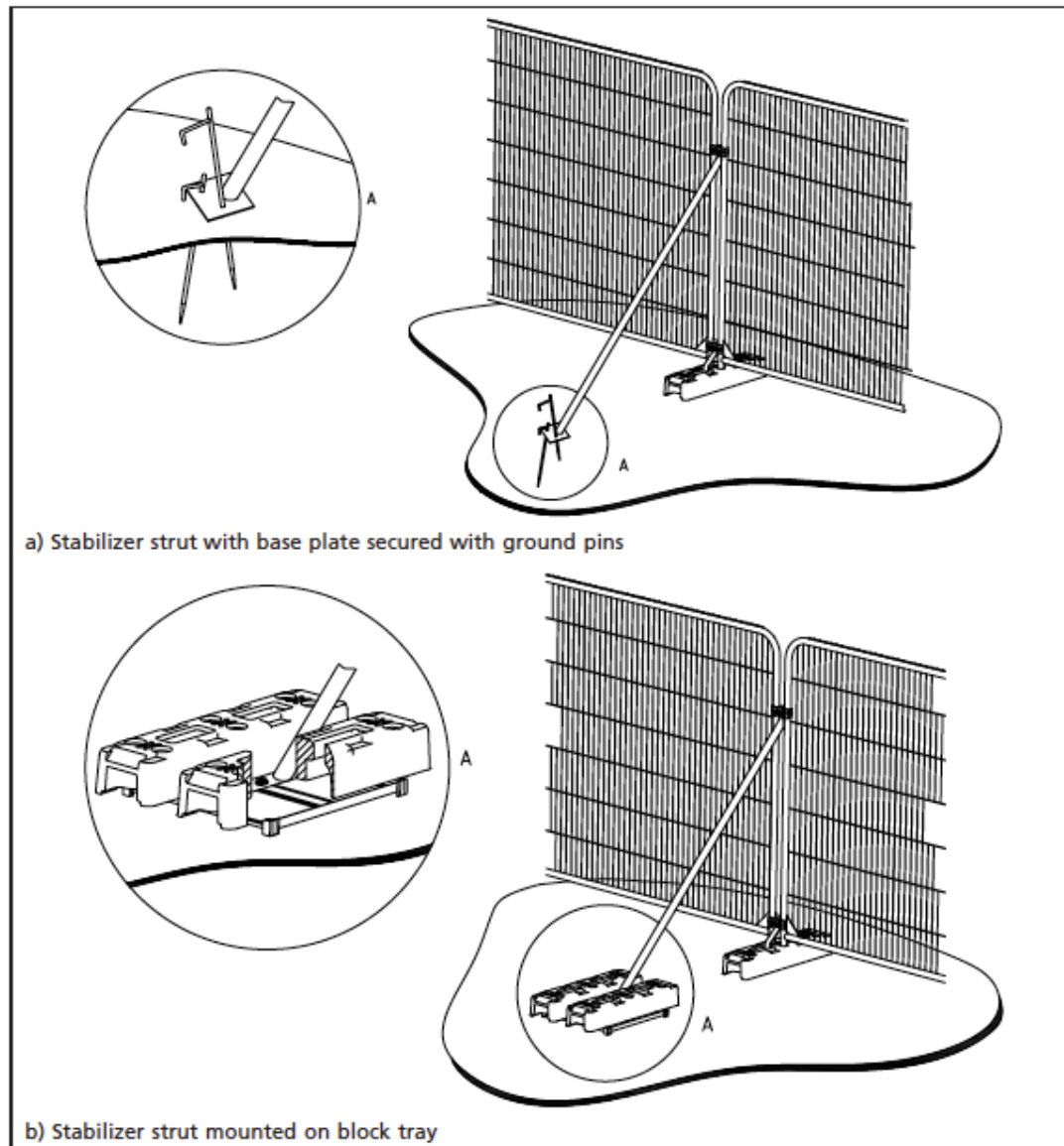


5.4 APPENDIX 4 – TREE PROTECTION PLAN



5.5 APPENDIX 5 – ABOVE-GROUND STABILIZING SYSTEMS

Figure 3 Examples of above-ground stabilizing systems



5.6 APPENDIX 6 – TREE PROTECTION FENCING NOTICE A4

CONSTRUCTION EXCLUSION ZONE
NO ACCESS

NO STORAGE OR OPERATIONS
WITHIN FENCED OFF AREAS

NO DIGGING OR TRENCHING

NO STORAGE OF PLANT OR MATERIALS

NO VEHICLE ACCESS

NO FIRE LIGHTING

NO CHEMICAL HANDLING



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