



3.3 Initial tree works

- 3.3.1 The tree removals and access facilitation pruning specified in the arboricultural impact assessment shall be carried out as the first stage of development. Any requirements for access facilitation pruning which have not been anticipated on the date of this report shall be discussed at the pre-commencement meeting with the project arboriculturist and be agreed to the local authority arboricultural officer (works to trees within a conservation area require the permission of the local authority).
- 3.3.2 Tree stumps and vegetation located within the root protection areas of retained trees shall be cleared with controlled hand tools (e.g. stump grinder/brush cutter). Plant machinery shall not be used to scrape vegetation, 'grub out' stumps within root protection areas, or access the site until the tree protection barriers have been installed.
- 3.3.3 If bonfires are lit to dispose of arisings from the vegetation or tree clearance works, an assessment of wind direction and strength shall be made to ensure flames cannot extend within 5m of any part of a retained tree. No bonfires shall be lit within a root protection area.
- 3.3.4 Trees should 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 should be contacted for advice.
- 3.3.5 The tree works contractors should carry out all tree works to BS3998: 2010 Tree works – recommendations as modified by research that is more recent. They should also carry relevant, adequate and up to date insurance.
- 3.3.6 It is suggested that an Arboricultural Association approved contractor carry out all tree works. Approved contractors are expected to work to industry best standards. The Arboricultural Association website (www.trees.org.uk) contains contact details and information on engaging a suitable contractor.

3.4 Installing drainage features within root protection areas

- 3.4.1 New foul/surface water drainage pipes will encroach the root protection areas of T1, T2 and T5. These need to be installed before the temporary ground protection and driveway can be installed.
- 3.4.2 Within the root protection areas, all excavation shall occur carefully using hand tools or an airspade. Roots revealed under 25mm diameter may be cleanly pruned using secateurs to leave the smallest feasible wounds. Roots over 25mm shall not be pruned unless the project arboriculturist has first been consulted.
- 3.4.3 Revealed roots that are to be retained shall immediately be wrapped in hessian cloth. This will help protect the delicate root bark during remaining excavation works and help prevent desiccation or frost damage if the excavation is left exposed for prolonged periods. The hessian cloth shall be removed when the trench is backfilled.
- 3.4.4 When the trench is backfilled, roots that are retained shall be surrounded by a small amount of inert granular material mixed with sharp sand or topsoil. This will help prevent damage to the roots if the soil is compacted when the trench is backfilled.

3.5 Tree protection barriers

- 3.5.1 The root protection areas of retained trees must be left free from disturbance, and protected from contamination or compaction during the proposed works. Protection shall comprise a combination of tree protection fencing and temporary ground protection.
- 3.5.2 The tree protection fencing and temporary ground protection shall be installed and signed off by the project arboriculturist before any plant activity or construction activities other