

METHOD STATEMENT FOR PROTECTION OF EXISTING TREES

FORMER CLEATOR MILLS SITE, CLEATOR (4/22/2364/0F1)

1701C-D006

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1. GENERAL PRECAUTIONS AND WORKING METHODOLOGY

There are no existing or retained trees within the application boundary and therefore no protection measures are deemed necessary as part of the anticipated works.

New trees and planting are proposed to be installed upon completion of the construction works to mitigate the need for any protection works. Please refer to the proposed planting plan which is submitted to discharge condition 7.

Please refer to existing site plan.

a. General Precautions:

During works undertaken adjacent to the eastern boundary in the small area of existing soft dig the following best practice as outlined below will be adhered to:

The following general information, much of which is common sense, forms standard working practice for responsible contractors, and provides general working method guidance for retained trees on site.

- No vehicles will be allowed to enter areas to be protected by fencing.
- All works will be carried out in accordance with the British Standard Institution (1989). (BS3998:1989 Recommendations for Tree Work – recommendations. BSI, London).
- The specification for protective fencing will conform to British Standard Institution (2005). (BS5837:2012/2005 Trees in relation to Construction – recommendations. BSI, London).
- All protective measures signed off by arboricultural consultant.
- No materials that are likely to have an adverse effect on tree health such as oil, bitumen or cement will be stored or discharged within the soft dig along the eastern boundary.
- Follow other general measures as below:
 - Do not store materials, plant or equipment within the soft dig.
 - Do not move plant or vehicles within the soft dig.
 - Do not lean materials against, or chain plant to, the trunk.
 - Do not cut significant roots over 50mm in diameter, unless prior advice has been sought on this
 - Do not store spoil or building materials, including chemicals and fuels, within this zone.
 - Do not fuel vehicles or plant/equipment within 20 meters of existing trees
 - Do not light fires under any tree canopy or within 20 metres of any tree to be retained.
 - Do not empty cement washing or other chemical within the soft dig.
 - Do contact the local authority tree officer or owner of the tree if excavation would encroach RPA's
 - Do protect any exposed roots uncovered within with dry sacking.
 - Do backfill with a suitable inert granular and topsoil material mix to excavations as soon as possible
 - Do notify the local authority tree officer or the tree's owner of any damage.

b. Working methodology:

Again, the recommendations in BS 5837 (2012/2005) Trees in Relation to Construction must be complied with at all times, and the following non-exhaustive list sets out the protocol for such works.

- Any trenching works required to accommodate services shall be dug by hand away from the bole of any trees.
- So as to minimise damage to the roots of the trees if discovered, it is proposed that any trenches are excavated as narrow as possible.
- Topsoil and subsoils excavated from trenches shall be deposited into separate stacks and kept apart until trench backfilling operation commences.
- Where it is necessary to sever roots below 50mm in diameter, their ends shall be cut cleanly and treated with an approved fungicidal sealant.
- Services shall be carefully positioned in the trench without causing any damage to the tree roots.
- Once the pipes or cables have been positioned, backfilling shall be carried out by hand using the subsoil firstly. The subsoil shall be backfilled into the trench in layers of no more than 100mm deep and each layer shall be gently consolidated by treading the surface. Once the subsoil backfilling has reached the level of the top of the existing subsoil, topsoil backfilling shall commence. Topsoil excavated from the trench shall similarly backfilled into the trench in layers of no more than 100mm deep and each layer shall be gently consolidated by treading the surface. Topsoil shall be backfilled into the trench until original ground level is reached. It is important that no voids are left and that the soil surrounds the roots.

2. MITIGATION AND PLANTING

In terms of proposed supplementary planting, new trees proposed will be UK native species. New planting will be undertaken once construction works have been completed so as not to adversely affect any new trees.

Refer to proposed landscaping plan as requested be discharged by planning condition no. 7.

3. SUMMARY

There are no existing trees within the development boundary.

Whilst a small number of trees can be seen within the adjacent land of the eastern boundary these trees are of a significant distance away with root protection areas that are deemed to be beyond the existing site boundary.

The proposed tree protection measures outlined in the foregoing will protect the existing trees within and around the construction site area. It is important that construction works follow and are implemented in accordance with British Standard BS5837 (2005/2012) - Trees in relation to construction to ensure best practice.

4. REFERENCES/BIBLIOGRAPHY

British Standard Institution (2005). BS5837:2005/2012 Trees in relation to Construction. BSI, London.

British Standard Institution (1989). BS3998:1989 Recommendations for Tree Work. BSI, London.

NJUG (2007). Guidelines for the Planning, Installation and Maintenance of Utility apparatus in Proximity to Trees. Volume 4: Issue2. The National Joint Utilities Group, London.

Mattheck, C & Breloer, H (2007). The body language of trees. A handbook for failure analysis. The Stationery Office.

5. SITE PLAN

