Absolute Arboriculture
Maple Lodge
Brighton Road
Lower Beeding
West Sussex
RH13 6PS

[redacted]

Arboricultural Impact Assessment

Client: Mr Colin Beckhurst

Location: Land to West of Crookthorn Byre, Brookpit Lane, Climping, BN17 5QU

Date of inspection: 21st January 2025

Inspector: Max Ferretti ND Arb, TechArborA

Our reference: AIA/BL/21/25

1.1 **Instructions received:** I am instructed by Colin Beckhurst to inspect the significant trees in accordance with British Standard 5837:2012 'Trees In relation to design, demolition and construction.

1.2 **Terms of reference:** To carry out a tree survey where all significant trees are plotted on to a plan and the data from which collected is provided in a schedule. Where appropriate, to make preliminary management recommendations.

1.3 **Documents supplied:** I was provided the following plan:
Site Plan. pdf

1.4 **Limitations of Use and Copyright:** The content and format of this report are for the exclusive use of the Client or their agents. It may not be sold, lent, hired out or divulged to any third party not directly involved in the subject matter.

2.0 Scope and Method of Tree Survey:

2.1 The survey was carried out on 21st January 2025, by Max Ferretti ND.Arb TechArborA .

2.2 All significant trees that are on the property as well as nearby trees were subject to the survey.

2.3 The survey is based on a ground level tree assessment and examination of external features only – described as the 'Visual Tree Assessment' method expounded by Mattheck and Breloer (The Body Language of Trees, DoE booklet Research for Amenity Trees No.4, 1994).

2.4 In general, trees with a stem diameter less than 75mm at 1.5m above ground level have been excluded unless they have particular merit that warrants inclusion. In general, woody shrub species are not included. Tree stem diameters were measured in millimetres as near as possible to 1.5m above ground level. Root protection areas are calculated in accordance with BS5837.

2.5 The height of each tree was measured using a clinometer and crown radii were measured using a laser measure. Distances are given in metres.

2.6 Dimensions of trees within groups are given as an averaged figure unless otherwise stated. Dimensions of off-site trees are estimated unless full access is available.

3.0 Existing Trees

3.1 The details of 3 groups and 8 trees were recorded.

3.2 The schedule (page 12 of this report) on the Arboricultural assessment of trees provides the dimensions of those specimens included in the survey together with an assessment of their condition and life expectancy with specific comments regarding their condition where appropriate. In addition, each tree has been categorised according to its retention value following criteria provided in Table 1 of BS5837.

4.0 Tree Constraints

4.1 The data collected during the tree survey provides the basis for identifying the above ground or below ground constraints that maybe imposed on the site by those trees worthy of retention.

4.2 Below ground constraints are indicated by the root protection area [RPA] for each tree which is calculated in accordance with guidance provided within BS5837. The RPA is the minimum recommended area in square metres that ideally should be left undisturbed around each tree to be retained to ensure that damage to its roots or rooting environment is avoided.

4.3 In the case of open grown trees with an even, radial root distribution it would be normal for the boundaries of the RPA to be equidistant from the trunk of the tree. The actual disposition of tree roots can however be greatly affected by a range of site-specific factors such as existing building foundations and poor growing conditions under public highways. BS537 advises that these factors are to be assessed by the arboriculturist and appropriate adjustments to the siting of the RPA made, provided that it is not reduced in area.

4.4 The RPA for each retained tree is detailed in the schedule of trees and shown on the tree survey plan. Where offsetting is considered appropriate it is specifically noted.

5.0 Proposed Development

5.1 Erection of 1 self-build house.

6.0 Impact of Proposed Development

6.1 The new proposed drive entrance would disturb rooting environments of 3 Elm trees, T6, T7 and T8.

6.2 There will be minimal incursions from the proposed dwelling to the RPAs of both T10 and T11. The western spread of the crowns of both of these trees is also likely to interfere with the construction of the dwelling.

ARBORICULTURAL METHOD STATEMENT

Land to West of Crookthorn Byre, Brookpit Lane, Climping, BN17 5QU

Important note: It is essential that this method statement, the tree protection plan and any other documents that relate to tree protection matters are passed to the project manager prior to the commencement of any works on site. All personnel involved in this project should be made aware of the content of these documents and the importance of implementing and maintaining a robust policy towards the protection of retained trees. Failure to adhere to approved tree protection measures is likely to result in a breach of planning conditions.

7.0 Introduction

7.1 This Arboricultural Method Statement [AMS] and the accompanying Tree Protection Plan [TPP] are prepared following the principles set out within British Standard 5837:2012 'Trees in relation to design, demolition and construction Recommendations' [BS5837] and current best practice.

7.2.1 This document should be read in conjunction with our Tree Constraints Plan, reference, Brookpit Lane - TCP - January 2025.

8.0 Arboricultural Supervision

8.1 The successful integration of any development within or adjacent to existing trees relies on those trees being properly protected throughout all periods of the development process, from site clearance or demolition through to post development landscaping and completion. To ensure that this is achieved, BS5837 advocates the retention of an appropriately qualified Arboriculturist to oversee all matters relating to trees for the duration of the construction period.

8.2 As part of this process the Arboriculturist shall attend a Pre-Commencement site meeting with the Project Manager and the Site Manager prior to ANY works on site, including demolition or site clearance. At this meeting, the programme of works will be reviewed and an outline schedule of visits by the Arboriculturist will be determined and agreed.

8.3 Site visits by the Arboriculturist should coincide with tree-related key stages of the development and in particular:
- Any preliminary arboricultural works or site clearance.
- The installation of tree protection measures.
- Any works within Root Protection Areas such as the removal of hard surfaces or installation of underground services or new hard surfaces.
- Any change in site or project manager personnel.

8.4 The schedule may be subject to later review and may be influenced by unforeseen events or where there has been a failure in the maintenance of approved tree protection measures. The LPA shall be informed by phone, email or in writing of any changes, variations, or amendments.

8.5 Particular attention must be given to any works of any nature that have to be undertaken within construction exclusion zones. These must be carried out under the direct supervision of the Arboriculturist.

8.6 The Arboriculturist should be available to attend any site meetings at the request of the LPA.

8.7 In addition, the Arboriculturist should be available in the event that any unexpected conflicts with trees arise.

8.8 The Arboriculturist should keep a written log of the results of all site Inspections and note any changes to the schedule of site visits. Any contraventions of tree protection measures or other incident that may prejudice the well-being of retained trees, shall be brought to the attention of the site manager in the form of a written report. Copies of the inspection log and any contravention reports will be available for inspection by the Local Planning Authority at all times.

9.0 Facilitation Tree Works

9.1 Prior to the commencement of any site clearance or construction works, the three Elm trees, T6, T7 and T8 should be removed to facilitate the drive entrance as indicated on the TPP.

9.2 It should be a consideration to remove the Elm trees within group, G5. Although not an impact on the development, there is a high probability that these trees will succumb to Dutch Elm Disease in the near future. It may make good practical sense to remove trees before any development begins.

9.3 Any Elm trees on the outer edge of the site and adjacent to the footpath/track may be left without adverse risk at present. It may be easier for trees to be removed after the development from the footpath/track, if necessary.

9.4 Cherry trees T10 and T11 must have their crowns reduced by 2 meters and 3 meters respectively, in order to maintain enough distance from the proposed dwelling. Some pruning work to balance their appearance therafter may be a consideration.

9.5 Temporary ground protection must also be put in place to minimise disturbing underlying soils which could potentially damage roots and the positions of these are shown on the accompanying TPP.

9.6 No other tree works shall be undertaken without further consultation with the local planning authority.

9.7 Tree works should be carried out by a suitably qualified tree surgeon.

10.0 Tree Protection Barriers

10.1 Tree protection barriers shall be installed prior to the commencement of any site clearance or construction works.

10.2 Vertical tree protection barriers shall be erected in the positions indicated on the Tree Protection Plan (TPP). Barriers shall be formed from a system of 'heras' style weldmesh panels securely fixed to scaffold poles and stabilized on either rubber or concreate feet and secured by ground pins driven firmly into the ground and braced as illustrated on the TPP. These barriers demarcate the 'Construction Exclusion Zone', the areas adjacent to trees that shall be safeguarded from all forms of construction activity.

10.3 Any current boundary fence should remain in place throughout construction.

10.4 No protection fencing must be moved without the supervision of the project Arboriculturalist.

11.0 Site Access and Storage of Materials

11.1 There is scope for the temporary storage of materials to the south and west of the site. No materials shall be stored within the RPA's indicated on the TPP.

11.2 Great care shall be taken to ensure that the booms of excavators and all machinery used in the delivery or movement of materials does not damage the crowns or stems of retained trees. All activities close to trees shall be carefully planned and controlled.

11.3 Particular care shall be taken to prevent the spillage of toxic chemicals such as cement and oils in any part of the site so that any future planting is not compromised by substances that may prejudice their establishment. All such substances shall be stored (and mixed where necessary) on robust plastic sheeting. Contaminated water from the washing of tools and equipment shall not be permitted to leach into the soils in or adjacent to the RPA or any area designated for future planting.

12.0 Site Clearance and construction

12.1 No materials shall be stockpiled on any area within the RPA.

12.2 Where working in RPAs is unavoidable, appropriate ground protection must be used to protect underlying soils.

12.3 Under no circumstances shall any machinery or vehicles operate or traverse across exposed soils within RPAs.

13.0 Excavations for Foundations

13.1 Excavations are to be carried out with great care to minimise disturbance to underlying soils. Excavations shall not extend further into the soil or root zone of trees.

13.2 Any excavators used in works close to RPAs shall be fitted with a grading bucket without 'teeth'. The bucket must be used so that the cutting edge is horizontal to minimise disturbance of the underlying soil.

13.3 In the event that tree roots are exposed during these works they shall be cut back cleanly using handsaw or secateurs. Great care shall be taken to avoid ripping or tearing roots back to towards the tree stem.

14.0 Installation of New Underground Services

14.1 The installation of new underground services can present a particular risk and damage to trees. Even relatively shallow excavations, if carried out without appropriate care, can cause considerable damage to roots.

14.2 I have not been made aware of any new instillation or existing underground services. There is plenty of scope to route underground services away from RPAs where necessary.

14.3 In the event that changes to any routing of new services are required, the arboriculturist shall be consulted to ensure that trees remain unaffected.

15.0 Tree Protection Barriers and Ground Protection

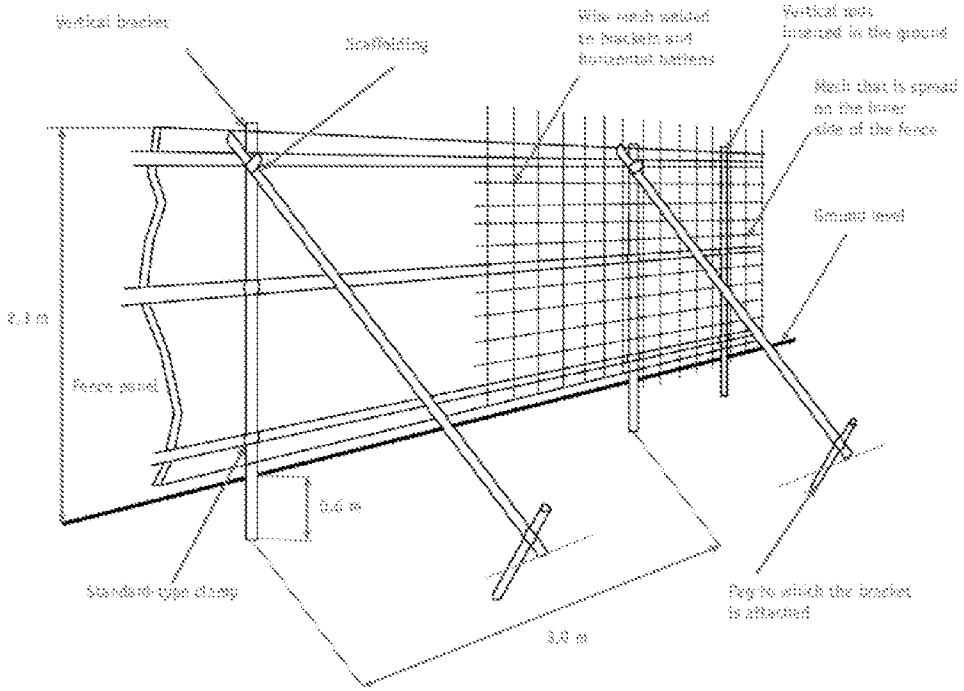
15.1 The style of tree protection barrier is recommended in BS5837:2012 and an example is shown below, 12.0.
'Heras' weldmesh panels securely attached to scaffold poles driven firmly into ground and braced with supporting scaffold poles. Where fencing is in or near RPA's, base supports are to be used to prevent damaging any roots underneath.

16.0 Working area / Access

16.1 Ground boards such as 'EuroMat' or 'TuffTrak' (dependent upon loading), held together fixed with connection plates. Where access is for pedestrian or light machinery use only, scaffold boards or 18mm ply sheets may be used, these may need to be bolted together to add strength and to prevent movement. Existing ground for pedestrian access hollows should be filled with topsoil or woodchip. For vehicular / heavy machinery use or if prolonged access is required a 100- 150 mm bed of wood or bark chip should be laid underground boards Geotextile membrane such as Terram 1000 as a separating layer.

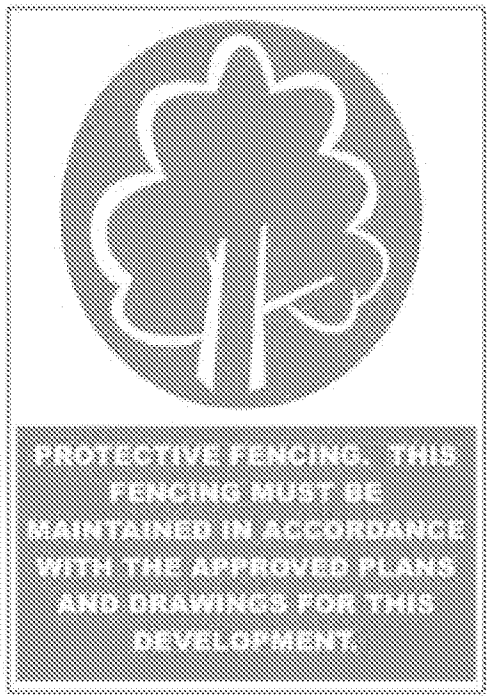
16.2 **Example of protective ground boards (EuroMat)**

17.0 Example of protective fencing



18.0 Example of protective fencing signs

Signs such as these must be firmly secured onto each fence panel.



Signed:

[redacted]

Max Ferretti ND Arb, TechArborA

Date: January 31st 2025

Tree Shedule

Site: Brookpit Lane, Climping, BN17 5QU

Date: January 2025

Ref.	Species	Height	Num. Stems	Stem diameter(s) (mm)	Crown Clearance (m)	Spread (m)				Phys Condition	Structural Condition	Life Stage	life Exp	Comments / Recommendations	RPA Radius	RPA m2	Retention Category
						North	East	South	West								
G2	Mixed species *(Mixed species)*	10	1	230	2.0	4.0	4.0	4.0	4.0	Fair	Fair	Mature	20 +	Mixed off site group of Sycamore and Willow	0	493	B
G4	Elder *(Sambucus nigra)*	4	1	100	0.0	3.0	3.0	3.0	3.0	Poor	Poor	Mature	10 +	Approx. 8 overgrown trees, smothered in ivy	0	279	C
G5	Mixed species *(Mixed species)*	8	1	190	2.0	4.0	4.0	4.0	4.0	Fair	Fair	Early Mature	10 -	Mixed group of Blackthorn and Elm within scrub and ground ivy	0	111	U
T1	Rowan *(Sorbus aucuparia)*	4	1	110	2.0	2.0	2.0	2.0	2.0	Fair	Good	Semi Mature	10 +	No visual defects	1.3	5	C
T3	Eucalyptus cider gum *(Eucalyptus gunnii)*	6	1	130	2.0	5.0	1.0	1.0	2.0	Fair	Poor	Semi Mature	10 +	Stem leans north approx 20 degrees	1.6	8	C
T6	English elm *(Ulmus procera)*	10	2	190	2.0	4.0	4.0	4.0	4.0	Dying	Poor	Early Mature	10 -	Evidence of DED	3.2	32	U
T7	English elm *(Ulmus procera)*	10	1	330	2.0	4.0	4.0	4.0	4.0	Dying	Poor	Early Mature	10 -	Evidence of DED, branches close to utility line and pole	4	50	U
T8	English elm *(Ulmus procera)*	8	1	190	1.0	3.0	3.0	3.0	3.0	Poor	Poor	Early Mature	10 -	Suppressed by T7, branches in contact with utility line	2.3	17	U
T9	Common ash *(Fraxinus excelsior)*	8	1	220	1.0	4.0	4.0	4.0	4.0	Good	Good	Early Mature	10 +	Ivy present but has been severed	2.6	21	C
T10	Cherry *(Prunus sp. 'Cherry')*	7	1	380	1.0	8.0	9.0	6.0	5.0	Fair	Good	Mature	10 +	Crown breaks at 1m into 4 notible stems, biased east with ivy present to northen	4.6	66	C
T11	Cherry *(Prunus sp. 'Cherry')*	5	2	120	1.0	2.0	3.0	5.0	6.0	Fair	Poor	Early Mature	10 +	Suppressed by T10. Included fork near ground level, bais south	2	13	C

All dimensions in metres unless otherwise stated. Dimensions of trees growing outside the site may be estimated Age categories: Y=Young, SM= Semi-Mature, EM=Early Mature, M=Mature, LM=Late Mature, V=Veteran. Condition categories: G=Good, F=Fair, P=Poor. Af –stem diameter taken above fork. Bf- stem diameter taken below fork. DED = Dutch Elm Disease.
BS grade: A=40 year life expectancy, B=20 year life expectancy, C=10 year life expectancy, U=trees that cannot realistically be retained for longer than 10 years
Root protection areas (RPA) calculated following guidance provided in BS5837:2012. *Stem diameters of multi-stem trees are calculated in accordance with BS5837 section 4.6. Alternative calculation of 15 times stem diameter used for veteran tree

End