

Ecology & Arboricultural Briefing Note

Land East of Tye Lane, Walberton, September 2020

This briefing note has been prepared by CSA Environmental on behalf Vistry South East, in relation to land East of Tye Lane, Walberton (hereafter the 'Site'). It provides a review of the potential ecological and arboricultural impacts considered likely as a result of using the agreed vehicle access point off of Tye Lane (REF: WA/95/18/RES) as a new construction access. This note also provides an outline of the proposed mitigation and avoidance measures.

1.0 Introduction

- 1.1 An outline application for the erection of 175 no. dwellings and associated car parking, access roads and areas of open space at Land East of Tye Lane, Walberton was approved (REF: WA/44/17/OUT) in February 2018. This was followed by a Reserved Matters Application (REF: WA/95/18/RES) which included conditions in relation to ecology (condition 12 and 13), which were discharged in April 2019. Construction is now underway.
- 1.2 Proposals included the construction of a new vehicular access point off of Tye Lane, which would serve emergency vehicles accessing the Site. Consultation has since been had between Vistry South East and Arun District Council regarding the use of this access for construction vehicles in order to improve Health & Safety on the site during the build phase. It has been established that the ecological and arboricultural impacts are considered to be minor. Impacts include the removal of scrub and a few leaning tree limbs in the area of the visibility splays that are required for the temporary construction access, given the intensification of use from the consented emergency access.
- 1.3 This report outlines the working methods implemented in regards to potential ecological impacts and an updated works schedule in regards to arboriculture.

2.0 Ecology

Nesting Birds

- 2.1 Under the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (as amended) it is an offence to kill, injure or take any wild bird, or to take, damage or the nest of a wild bird, or to take or destroy eggs. The potential for impacts to nesting birds nesting during vegetation clearance exists, and as such vegetation removal during the nesting season (March to August) has been undertaken sensitively, immediately following a nesting bird check by an ecologist to confirm absence of any active nests. This was completed on 28 August 2020 by Aaron White GradCIEEM in relation to the consented emergency access and foul waste connection. The already consented

felling of a further two trees (discussed in Section 3.0, below) is required to permit the use of the access for emergency vehicles, however this will be done outside of the nesting bird season and so no further ecological works are required. There is no further works required in order to permit the use of the access for construction traffic.

- 2.2 In the event that an active bird's nest was found, an exclusion zone would have been set up around the nest, and no works taken place until the ecologist verified that all dependent young had fledged. The radius of this exclusion zone is species-dependent, varying according to the conservation status and vulnerability to disturbance of the species in question.
- 2.3 During the nesting bird check, no active nests were identified, and as such vegetation removal works were able to continue unconstrained.

Reptiles

- 2.4 All native British reptile species are listed within Schedule 5 of the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 and are afforded protection against killing and injury. In addition, all native British reptile species are Section 41 Species of Principle Importance in England.
- 2.5 Surveys undertaken at the Site in 2017 found no reptiles present within the Site. However, on two occasions during the construction phase, individual grass snakes were observed along the retained margins within the eastern extent of the Site, where some suitable habitat exists. Therefore, there is the potential for direct impacts to individuals present.
- 2.6 As a result, the working area was subject to a visual search for reptiles by Ecologist Aaron White GradCIEEM, prior to any vegetation removal works commencing on 28 August 2020 in relation to the consented emergency access and foul waste connection. Vegetation was initially cut to c. 20cm above ground level, unless already at this level or below. A fingertip search for reptiles was then undertaken. As a final stage, turf will be stripped from the construction zone to remove any habitat resource which may attract reptiles to recolonise before site works commence

3.0 Arboriculture

- 3.1 All of the trees to the east of Tye Lane in the vicinity of the consented access are protected by Tree Preservation Order (TPO). The consented tree removals to allow for the approved footway/cycleway/emergency access and foul water drainage connection have already been undertaken.

3.2 In order to implement the new construction access/egress on to Tye Lane no additional trees, beyond those consented for removal as part of the existing consent, will directly require removal.

3.3 However, to achieve the visibility splay requirements two small, low quality, trees, (one elm and one holly), will need to be removed from the east side of the ditch than runs along the east side of Tye Lane (N.B. the holly only just conflicts with the visibility splay).

3.4 The required tree works are detailed below:

- 1 No. English elm (c. 250mm dbh and 6m in height) - fell to ground level and treat stump with appropriate herbicide (or grub out stump).
- 1 No. common holly (c. 150mm dbh and 4m in height) - fell to ground level and allow stump to regrow.

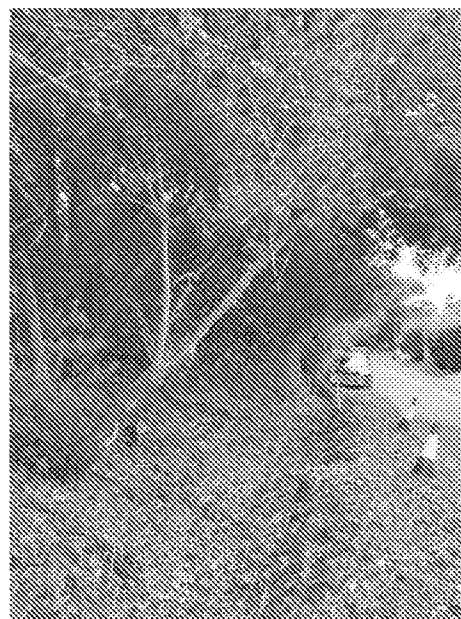
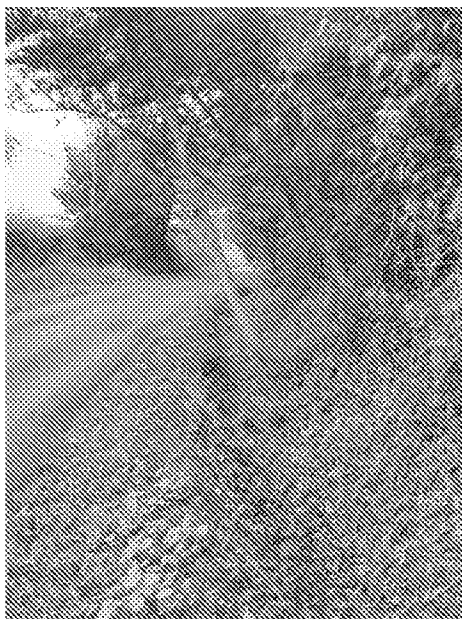


Image 1 and 2: the left-hand image shows the small elm growing out of the bank side and leaning out over Tye Lane. The right-hand image shows the small holly, again with a stem lean over Tye Lane. When applying the methodology of BS5837:2012, both trees would be categorised as low-quality (Category C).

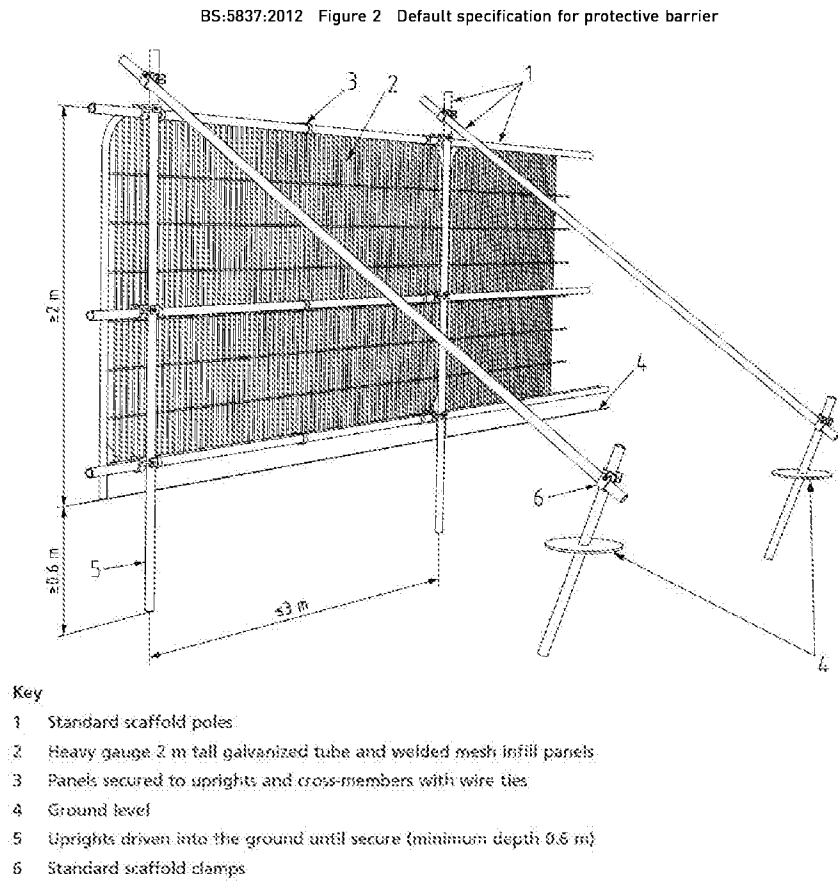
3.5 These two trees are leaning towards the highway and as such they would likely become a maintenance issue or even unsafe and would likely require pruning / removal in the future, in the absence of development.

3.6 No further pruning of retained trees is required to meet the visibility splay requirements. The pruning works undertaken as part of the approved ditch improvement works, as detailed in the approved Arboricultural Method Statement

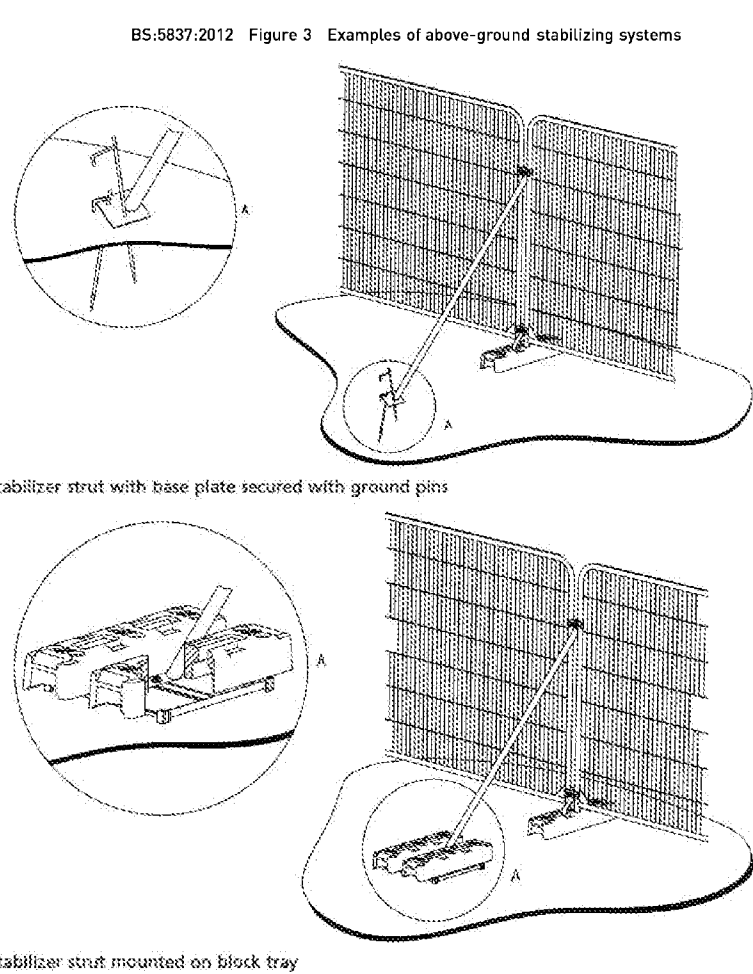
(REF: BHA_C.2636_AMS_WALBERTON_Ditch_SEPT 2019) have already been carried out and this work also meets the visibility splay requirements.

- 3.7 The combined Tree Retention / Removal and Protection Plan (REF: BHA_401_02) has been updated in August 2020 and is provided at the end of this report.
- 3.8 In summary, the additional impacts (the loss of two small low-quality trees) are insignificant in arboricultural terms.

Tree No	Species	RPA Radius	RPA Area M ²	Category
T1	Hornbeam	3.8	46	B2
T2	Sugar maple	2	12	C2
T3	Rowan	1.8	10	C2
T4	Pink Oak	4.3	99	B1
T5	Poplar	5.4	92	C2
T6	Poplar	4.2	55	C2
T7	Red oak	4.5	65	B1
T8	Cypress	1.3	5	C2
T9	Lime	4.7	69	B2
T10	Cherry plum (purple leaf)	2.4	18	B2
T11	Cherry	2.4	18	B2
T12	Sweet chestnut	4.2	25	B1
T13	Cherry	2.6	22	B2
T14	Pink oak	2.2	15	B1
T15	Whitebeam	2.3	16	B2
T16	Norway maple	2.4	18	B2
T17	Larch	2	13	B2
T18	Poplar	4.8	72	C2
T19	English oak	7.8	191	B1
T20	Field maple	6	113	B1
T21	Field maple	4.8	72	B2
T22	Sycamore	4.2	35	B2
T23	Helm oak	10.6	350	A1
T24	Monterey Pine	9	253	A2
T25	Lime	7.8	191	A1
T26	English oak	2.3	18	C2
T27	Field maple	2.3	18	C2
T28	English oak	14	619	A2
T29	Copper beech	4.8	72	B2
T30	Grey poplar	6.6	137	C2
T31	Lombardy poplar	3.8	46	C2
T32	Norway maple	4.8	72	B2
T33	English oak	2.4	18	B1
T34	Grey Poplar	3.6	41	C1
T35	Grey poplar	4.2	55	C2
T36	English oak	3	28	B2
T37	Lombardy poplar	5.4	92	B2
T38	Horse chestnut	12.8	519	A1
T39	English oak	1.7	6	A2
T40	English oak	15	707	A2
T41	Weeping willow	2.4	18	C2
T42	Silver birch	4.2	35	B1
G1	Cypress, oak, maple	2.4	18	C2
G2	Sycamore, ash	4.5	65	B2
G3	Hawthorn, hazel, elder	1.8	10	B2
G4	Sycamore	4.3	59	B2
G5	Sycamore	4.5	65	B2
G6	Hawthorn, elder	1.8	10	C2
G7	Lombardy poplar	4.8	72	B2
G8	Cypress	1.8	10	C2
G9	White willow	7.2	163	B2
G10	Poplar	4.2	35	C2
G11	holly, laurel, helm oak, elder, sycamore	3.6	41	B2
G12	Sycamore, ash, hawthorn	4.2	55	B2
G13	Poplar, goat willow, holly	5.4	92	C2
G14	English elm	3	28	C2
G15	Field maple	3.3	39	B2
G16	Lombardy poplar	3.6	41	B2
G17	Lime, oak	4.2	55	B2
G18	Hawthorn, elm	2.2	15	C2
G19	Grey Poplar, hybrid poplar, lombardy poplar	9.2	129	C2
G20	Lombardy poplar	3.8	46	C2
G21	Cherry	3	28	C2
G22	Norway maple, sycamore, poplar, ash, rowan	4.8	72	B2
G23	English elm, hawthorn	1.3	5	C2
H1	English elm, hawthorn	1.3	5	C2
H2	Holly	1.5	7	B2
H3	Hawthorn	0.9	1	B2
H4	Hawthorn, ash, elder	1.1	4	C2



For more details refer to BS-5837:2012 'Trees in relation to design, demolition and construction - Recommendations' p.23



For more details refer to BS-5837:2012 'Trees in relation to design, demolition and construction - Recommendations' p.21



Tree Protection Barrier - Barrier to be erected prior to the commencement of works on site and not to be altered or removed until works are complete (cross check with specific requirements of any relevant planning conditions)



KEY BS 5837 : 2012 Categories

- Tree Category A - High Quality
- A Category - Hedgerow, Group, Woodland
- Tree Category B - Moderate Quality
- B Category - Hedgerow, Group, Woodland
- Tree Category C - Low Quality
- C Category - Hedgerow, Group, Woodland
- Tree Category U - Unsuitable for Retention
- U Category - Hedgerow, Group, Woodland
- Root Protection Area to BS 5837:2012
- Shrub Mass / Offsets Tree / OOS (Out of scope)
- Tree Preservation Order (TPO)
- Tree / Hedgerow to be Removed
- Primary Tree Protection Secondary Barrier to BS 5837:2012 (FIGURE 2)
- Secondary Tree Protection Secondary Barrier to BS 5837:2012 (FIGURE 2)
- Tree Protection Barrier to BS 5837:2012 (FIGURE 3)

Where trees are considered to be subject to Tree Preservation Order more detailed checks will be required in some instances in order to confirm exact boundaries for the areas covered by each TPO

PROJECT TITLE
Land East of Tye Lane, Walberton (C.2686)

DRAWING TITLE
Combined Tree Retention/Removal & Protection Plan

SCALE 1:1250 **DRAWING NUMBER** BHA_401_02

DRAWN BY SD **APPROVED BY** RH **REVISION** F **SHEET** - **DATE** 27/08/2020

CLIENT Linden Homes South

COORDINATE SYSTEM / DATUM British National Grid / Newlyn Datum (AOD)

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