

Mr Southcott
Southcott Homes Ltd
The Barn
Calcot Mount Business Park
Calcot Lane
Curdridge
Southampton
SO32 2BN

Our Ref: 211378 - Let 1 - Yapton

16 June 2021

Dear Mr Southcott

Re: Tree issues at land adjacent to Orchard Business Park, North End Road, Yapton, BN18 0GA

I write with regard to my recent instruction concerning the above project. You asked me to visit the site, review the tree protection regime in place at that time and then provide comments on the protection measures in terms of positioning and appropriateness.

You provided me with the following documents prior to my site visit:

- Barrell Tree Protection Plan (reference: '18063-BT1')
- Barrell Arboricultural Assessment and Method Statement (reference '18063-AA-AN')
- Vivid Design Studio Proposed Hedgerow Protection Plan (reference '200024 02')
- Tree Officer Report (dated 12 May 2021)

I visited the site on 7 June 2021 to assess the tree protection measures and during my visit I took a number of photographs, some of which I have appended to the end of this report for reference. During my visit I focused mainly on the tree issues raised in the Tree Officer's Report (points 2 and 3) in terms of positioning and adequacy.

The tree protection barriers appeared to be generally in the positions shown on the Vivid Design Studio Proposed Hedgerow Protection Plan (photographs 1, 2 and 3). However, I did note that a couple of weld mesh panels had been displaced. Nonetheless, I thought that the positioning was generally acceptable in terms of providing a suitably distanced tree protection regime during the remainder of the construction phase.

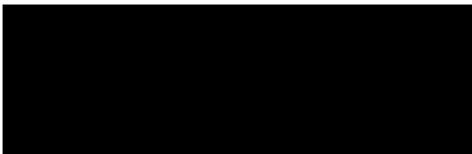
During my visit I did note that there was a lack of bracing of the weld mesh panels and this (along with the displaced panels) needs attention, as I share the Tree Officers concerns regarding robustness. I noted that pins had been placed through the rubber block trays in order to deter movement, but my experience is that such a measure in isolation is likely to be insufficient to deter accidental displacement. I therefore advised that additional strut bracing should be considered at the same time as the repositioning of the errant panels.

I understand from our subsequent telephone conversation that the tree protection barriers have now been braced more securely using rear facing struts pinned to the ground and that the displaced panels are now in position. You sent me images (photographs 4, 5 and 6) showing the revised more securely braced and pinned tree protection. In my view, this is a significant improvement over the tree protection I noted during my visit and I would now suggest that this is generally in accordance with Figure 3 of *BS 5837:2012 Trees in relation to design, demolition and construction – Recommendations*. This diagram shows weld mesh panels with stabiliser struts mounted on their block trays and is not dissimilar to that shown in your photographs.

In summary, I feel that the updated tree protection indicated in your photographs is probably adequate now in terms of protecting the trees during the construction phase. However, the adequacy of the measures needs to be monitored during the remainder of the build phase and steps taken to rectify any deficiencies. My advice would be to now contact the councils Tree Officer, send him a copy of this report and seek his views on whether he is now content with the tree protection measures currently shown.

In the intervening time, please call or email if you need to discuss any of the above points in more detail.

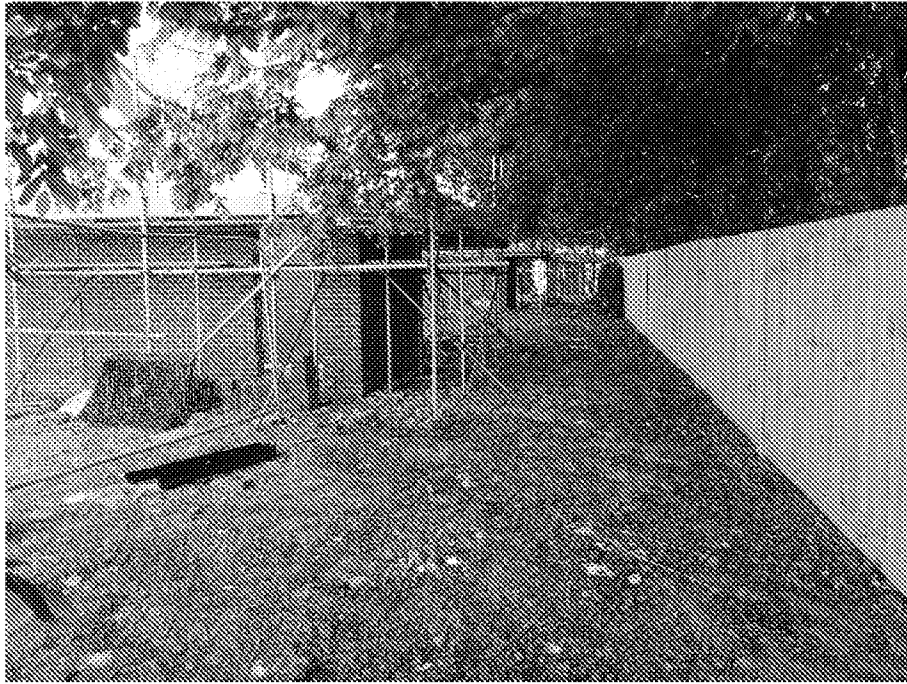
Yours sincerely



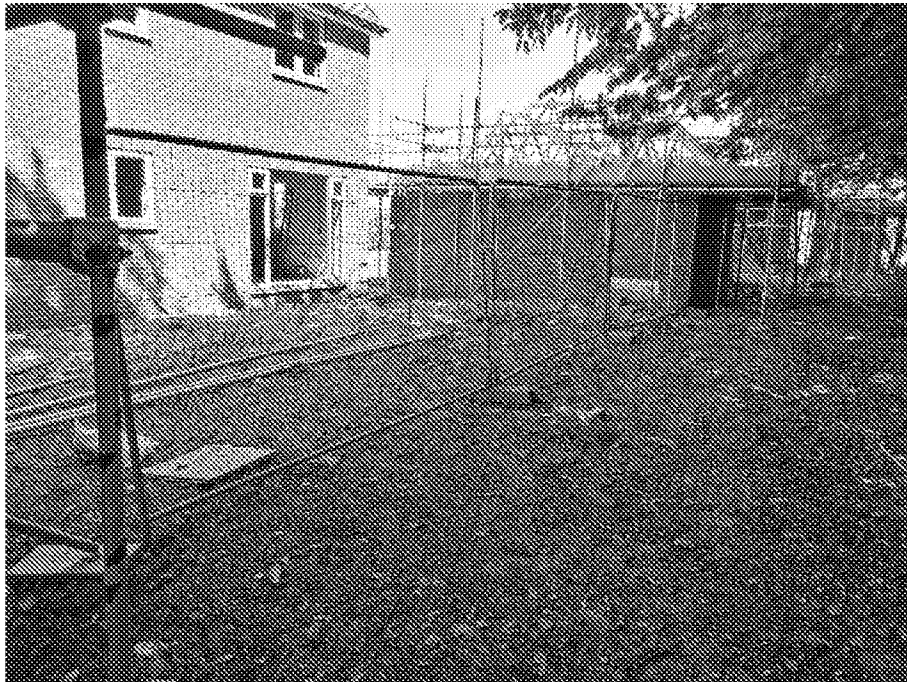
Barrie Draper BSc (Hons) Arb TechCert(ArborA) CertArb(RFS)
Arboricultural Consultant

Attached: 1: Photographs

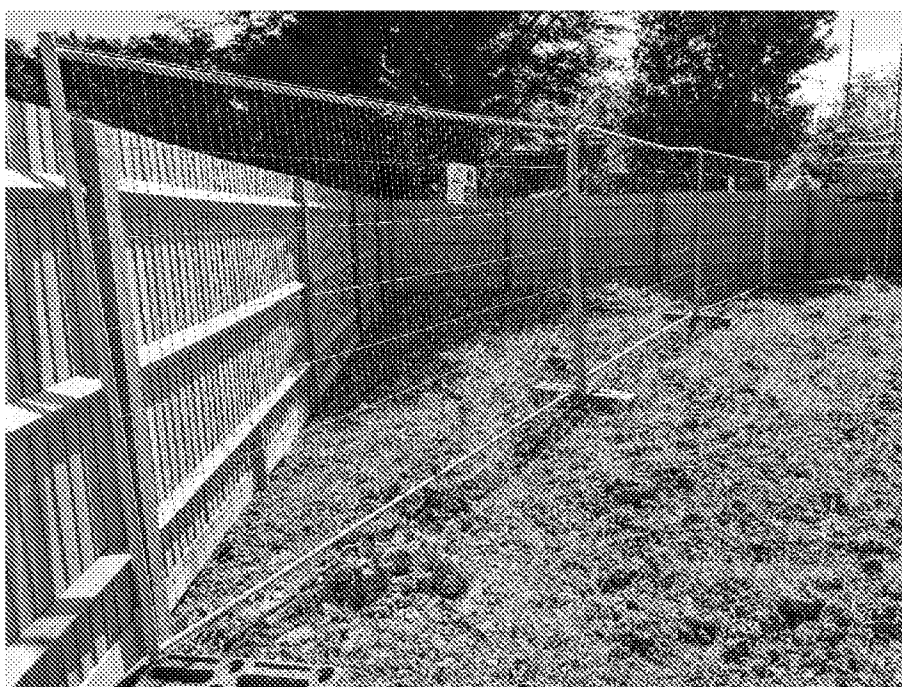
Photographs



Photograph 1 – Tree protection rear of plots 1 and 2 on 07.06.21



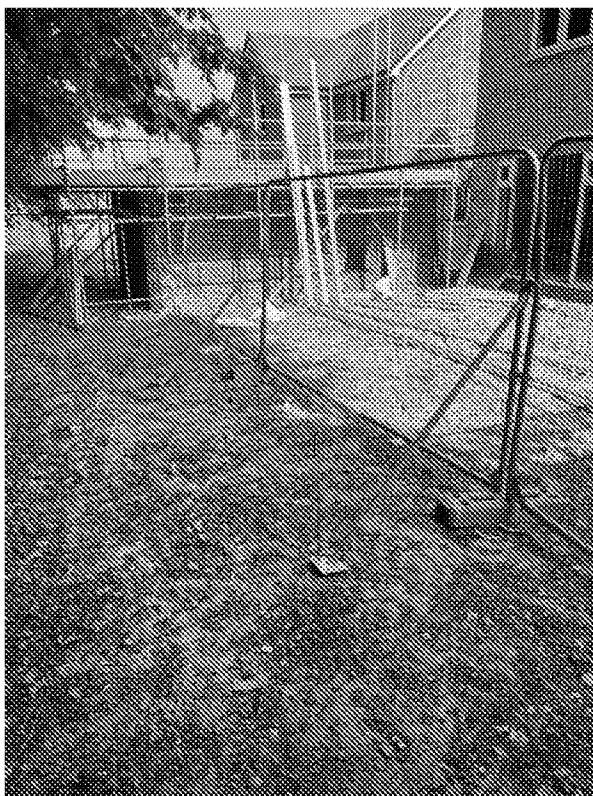
Photograph 2 – Tree protection rear of plots 1 and 2 on 07.06.21



Photograph 3 – Tree protection rear of plot 6 on 07.06.21



Photograph 4 – Updated and current tree protection rear of plots 1 and 2



Photograph 5 – Updated and current tree protection rear of plots 1 and 2



Photograph 6 – Updated and current tree protection rear of plot 6