

Arboricultural Implication Assessment and Method Statement for the proposed gazebo in the rear garden of Olde House 52 Front Street Whitburn

A tree survey took place on 19/09/15 by Richard Craik of Wholetree tree Surgeons
35 Runhead Estate, Ryton, Gateshead, Tyne and Wear NE40 3HS to BS 5837:2012

There are three trees which are in proximity to the proposed gazebo and need to be protected: one sycamore to the East, one hawthorn to the south and one sycamore to the south west. The root protection areas as marked in Appendix 1 need to be adhered to. The root protection area represents below ground constraints, above ground constraints also need to be considered. There is no issue with the current or ultimate height or spread of trees, species characteristics or shading.

The proposed gazebo will not shade the trees nor will the gazebo be inappropriately shaded from the sun.

There is no proposed tree work to be undertaken on the trees either prior to or after the construction.

There is no proposed change in level to the ground either prior to or after the construction.

There is no access for vehicular traffic.

There is to be no change to the surface within the root protection area.

To stop encroachment on the root protection area a tree protection barrier is to be erected prior to the construction work starting. There is no need to remove existing shrubs and other vegetation from under the canopy of trees or remove lower branches prior to erecting the fencing. Protection barrier to remain in place for phase 1 of construction and removed for phase 2 of construction.

Phase 1 of construction is to dig by hand a 100mm deep foundation to be filled with concrete.

Phase 2 of construction is to construct by hand the wooden gazebo.

Protection barriers for phase 1 will comprise a scaffold framework in accordance with Figure 2 of BS 5837:2012 (The BS). The framework will consist of vertical and horizontal scaffolds with vertical tubes spaced at no more than 3m intervals and driven into the ground. Weld mesh (Heras or similar) panels will be securely fixed on to this framework with wire or scaffold clamps. Tubes will be firmed into holes in the ground made with post hole boring equipment. Post holes are to be no more than 30% larger than the scaffold tube. Supporting struts will be fixed to the inside of the barrier to ensure maximum rigidity. Once the barriers have been properly erected in position, they are to be considered as sacrosanct and are not to be removed or altered in any way without prior approval.

Clear notices are to be fixed to the outside of the fencing with words such as 'PROTECTED AREA – NO ACCESS AND NO STORAGE OR WORKING WITHIN THIS AREA'.

All operatives and other relevant personnel are to be informed of the role of the exclusion barriers and their importance. A copy of all documents will be displayed on site at all times during construction.

Protection for phase 2 construction of the wooden gazebo would allow temporary pedestrian access, the installation of a single thickness of scaffold boards over a compressible layer of polystyrene board.

General Principles for Tree Protection

A copy of this document is to be retained on site at all times and all personnel associated with the construction process will be made familiar with the principles within.

No mechanical excavators are to be used during construction at any time

No fires are to be lit on site at any stage during the construction process.

A designated storage area is to be created away from retained trees on the current patio near main house.

All materials for construction purposes are to be stored in this compound.

Care must be taken to avoid the leakage or leaching of noxious materials into the soil.

No materials will be stored or left stacked in positions around the site other than within the storage compound area.

Hand cultivation to a depth of 100mm. During this process soil is to be broken using a fork and lifted out using a spade. Should any small roots encountered (less than 25mm in diameter) then these can be cut back using a clean sharp instrument leaving a fresh clean cut. Any roots more than 25mm in diameter need to be left in situ and advice obtained from Richard Craik/LPA tree officer.