



IAIN TAVENDALE F.Arbor.A.

ARBORICULTURAL CONSULTANT

For the attention of Mr Andrew Spiers
Rouse Homes Ltd
8 Carr Crofts Drive
Armley
Leeds
LS12 3AL

20th November 2017

Dear Andrew

Re: Proposed Residential Development at Bradford Road Birkenshaw.

Further to our recent site meeting on the 15th November, I would confirm my comments on the various issues that were discussed.

In relation to the previously submitted tree survey, the majority of trees were still present and from our random checks on site, trunk diameters were still within acceptable limits, especially when considering that BS5837 advises rounding up or down to the nearest 10mm.

As such the indicated root protection areas can still be reasonably considered as acceptable.

Due to the ages of the vast majority of trees present it was also considered that canopy sizes, heights and other dimensions are unlikely to have changed significantly since they were measured by Aire Valley Tree Consultancy Ltd in November 2013.

Being mature trees although growth will continue, rates will be much reduced and again accepting that the Standards advise dimensions should be rounded up, these too should be acceptable, all having been previously utilised in the extant scheme and approved by the LPA.

We did note that various trees had been lost and several items topped or otherwise pruned. It is presumed that all such operations / losses were managed and found necessary by the West Yorkshire Fire and Rescue Service and were appropriately managed.

I did advise that the reasons for removal in some cases were not visible but several trees had obviously fallen on their own accord due to decay or other structural issues.

Effectively therefore it was agreed that the Aire Valley Tree Survey still appeared to be a useable document although, should your revised proposals be accepted, it will probably be necessary to produce a new Arboricultural Method Statement or similar, all of which will probably be conditioned to the final approval.

Such a document as detailed in BS5837:2012 Trees in relation to design, demolition and construction - Recommendations should be appropriate to the proposals and would be expected to typically address the following issues:

- Protection to all retained trees before any materials or machinery are brought onto the site and before any demolition, development, or stripping of soil commences.
- Removal of existing structures and hard surfacing.
- Installation of temporary ground protection.
- Installation of new hard surfacing.
- Specialist foundations, installation techniques, floor levels and similar.
- Retaining structures.
- Storage compounds and temporary services.
- Auditable / audited system of arboricultural site monitoring, including a schedule of specific site events requiring input or supervision.
- Contact details for all relevant parties.

In respect of the provision of the Method Statement, in accordance with BS5837 Figure 1, once the feasibility and planning/design section is complete and Scheme Design Approvals are obtained from Clients and Regulatory bodies, the detailed/technical design stage should be implemented.

In arboricultural terms this will basically involve the preparation and submission of a detailed and comprehensive document to discharge the relevant conditions.

The provision of such a Method Statement will ensure that there are neutral / negligible impacts on the retained treescape.

You indicated that the Ecological Survey was also being updated and this may raise issues relating to trees and their ecological desirability. Again I wouldn't expect such a document to be significantly different from that already produced but if any new concerns do crop up, please don't hesitate to contact me and we can discuss and if necessary amend the tree survey accordingly to work in with the design.

I trust that this note covers all the various points raised, but should you have any additional queries or if clarification of any points is necessary, please contact me directly.

Kind regards

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Iain Tavendale". The signature is written in a cursive style with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

Iain Tavendale F.Arbor.A.