

MARSH DESIGN LIMITED

STRUCTURAL DESIGN CONSULTANTS & SURVEY REPORTS

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8 August 2025
Our Ref: MDL – 11385

Mr. Philip Oldfield
Meadowlands
Briestfield Road
Briestfield
WF12 0PA

Dear Philip

Structural Inspection of Retaining Walls Meadowlands, Briestfield Road, Briestfield

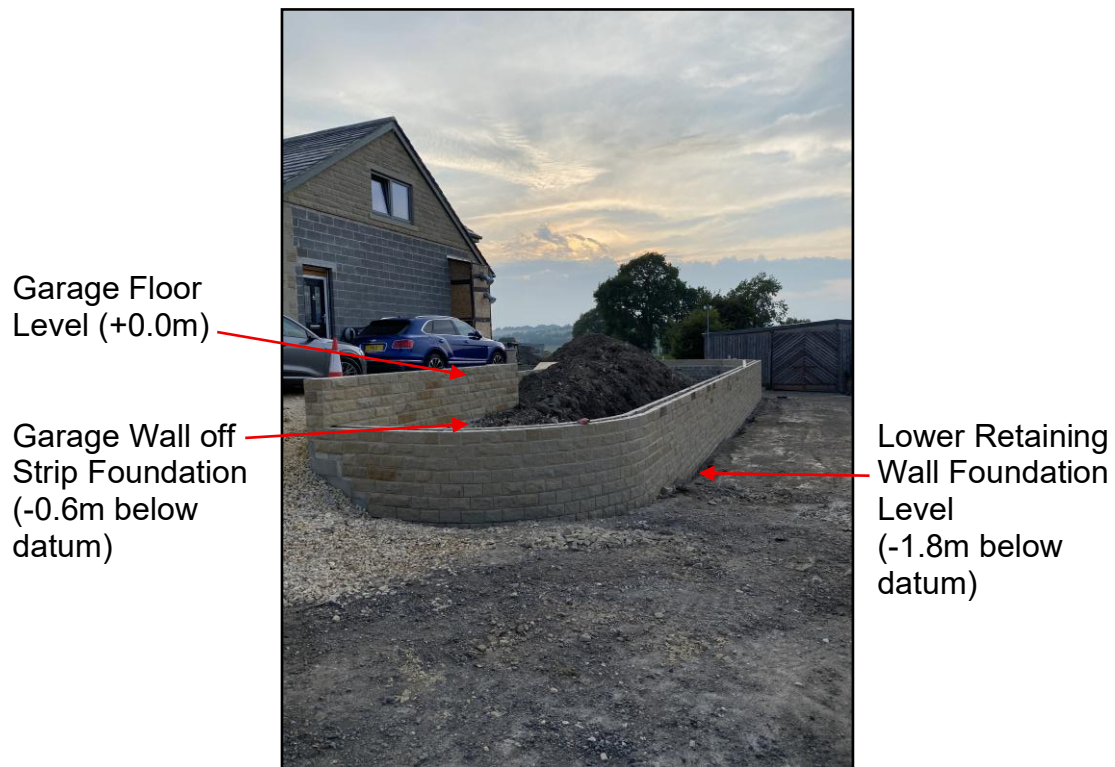
Following your instructions, we can confirm that a structural inspection of the retaining wall at Meadowlands has been undertaken.

The retaining wall is a concrete and blockwork construction with a natural stone cladding measuring from 900mm high up to 1800mm high along its elevation across the length of the lower driveway area.

The retaining wall adjacent to the driveway supports the earth above forming a small garden area filled with shrubbery and vegetation. The retaining wall has been constructed to provide stability to the higher ground levels where the main dwelling and garage is located.



We have been provided with photographs from the construction period of the property.



The garage wall has been built off a strip footing foundation with a stone and blockwork cavity wall down to a level approximately 600mm below the finished garage floor level. The level of this wall is 1.2m above the level on the foundations for the lower retaining wall structure.

The garage wall and strip foundation alone is not adequate to support the mass off the garage structure and the lateral forces imposed upon this wall from the earth pressures it retains.

The garage wall and its foundation are reliant upon the mass of earth in front of this wall to provide lateral buttress embankment support to the garage wall foundations.

Assessing the nature of the filled ground between the garage wall and retaining wall structure, the loose material has a very low angle of repose. (The angle of repose of the soil is the angle at which the soil would move under pressure, the higher the angle of repose, the less likely the soil is to move).

The lower retaining wall adjacent to the driveway has been constructed to support the earth embankment below the garage retaining wall, and as such, by definition it is also supporting the garage foundations and the superstructure above

The structural integrity of the main dwelling and garage is reliant upon the strength of the retaining wall structure below, and the retaining wall cannot be removed without compromising the safety of the buildings above.

Ultimately, should the lower retaining wall be removed, then this would result in subsidence of the earth embankment above it causing subsequent structural movement and damage to the garage and property above.

It is our overwhelming opinion that the retaining wall structure adjacent to the driveway should not be modified or removed in any way.

Yours faithfully,

D. Haigh B. Eng (Hons)
Director
For and on behalf of
MARSH DESIGN LIMITED