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New Boundary Fence.
Islamic Centre of England.
140 Maida Vale. London W9 1QB.

Arboricultural Method Statement. August 2016

The Islamic Centre owns three London Planes on their Maida Vale highway frontage.

The trees are not subject to planning controls.

The Islamic Centre regards the Planes as a valuable asset.
The trees are professionally pruned on a regular basis.

This method statement gives guidance to install the new boundary fence with the minimum of impact on the trees.

Please refer to the following documents prepared by Julian Arent Associates.

140 Maida Vale drawings and photographs 001 -007.
JAA photos Islamic Centre. JAA Photomontage Islamic Centre A3.
JAA Schedule of works.

The JAA Schedule of Works describes how the fence will be set on a horizontal steel beam set on to 6" mini piles.

This method statement is guided by British Standard 5837 (2012) "Trees in relation to design,demolition and construction -recommendations" **(BS). (**ref section 7.5)

Choice of piling rig.

The 6" mini piles will be driven in by a remotely powered rubber tracked mini piling rig standing on a marsh mat. The marsh mat will stand on existing pavers (the mat will be levelled if needed by placing washed sand or wood chip underneath). The marsh mat will spread the load exerted by the piling rig.
The height of the piling boom will take into account the crown clearance of the Planes (< 5 metres) and the proximity of stems.
Care will be taken to avoid any spillage of hydraulic oil during hose connection.

Position of Piles.

Piling will take place within the normative root protection areas (as described in the BS) of the trees.

Subject to structural engineers approval the western most section of fence could be supported by fixings to the existing boundary blockwork wall.

Piles will be placed to minimise impact on the root systems of the trees.

The pavers to the north of the southern face of the tree stems will remain undisturbed.
The existing tree planters will remain undisturbed
The trees most likely predate the practice of the planting bed having an installed root barrier.

Investigation for placement of the piling line will begin at the most distal point from the base of the trees.

- At the point of the supporting posts for gates
- Equidistant from the centre of the stems

The area has been paved for many years and it is unlikely that there will be any native material immediately below the pavers. Disturbed and fragmented ground is often more conducive to rooting than the heavy London Clay subbase that could be expected here.

It is often the case that in trees of this size roots will rapidly subdivide and will mostly be less than 25mm in diameter at 1 metre from the base of the tree.
However large roots can be at distance from the tree if ground conditions favour this.
It is more common in areas that are paved to find an asymmetrical root system.
It assumed that in this case roots of a diameter greater than 25mm could be found in ground further than a metre from these trees.

Pavers will be lifted by hand using a pry bar.
Root investigations will be carried out by hand digging using a blunt bar and rabbiting spade. A shuv holer could also be used to remove loosened material from depth.
A hand trowel and nylon brush could be used adjacent to large roots if found.
Care must be taken to avoid skinning of any roots.

The investigation pits will be dug to a depth where undisturbed clay can be found or to a depth greater than 600mm.

If roots of diameter greater than 25mm are found and it would not be possible to set a pile in the right position adjacent to those roots the investigation should be extended or restarted at a different location along the line.
If roots of less than 25 mm cannot be manually moved off the piling point and are severed they should be pruned back cleanly at 90 degrees to their axis at the edge of excavations.

Exposed roots should be covered with wet Hessian sacking until the holes are back filled.

It is a reasonable assumption that roots will be found along the piling line but it is also a reasonable assumption that there will be a successful piling line due to the small diameter of the piles.

Once piles have been driven the investigation holes can be back filled with washed sand mixed with topsoil at a ratio of 20 parts sand to 1 part topsoil. The pavers will be reset onto washed sand and the joints will not be grouted.

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