

Ecological Consultants Environmental and Rural Chartered Surveyors

Your Ref: Our Ref: 3756

Chipping Homes Ltd

Units A2-A6 Edge Fold Industrial Estate

Plodder Lane Farnworth Bolton England

BL4 OLR

Tuesday, 06 February 2018

Dear Sirs

RE: CONDITION 8 - BOUNDARY TREATMENT

"Notwithstanding the submitted details, prior to the commencement of the development, details at a scale of not less than 1:20 of the proposed boundary walling, gates and fencing shall have been submitted to and approved by the Local Planning Authority and these details shall identify the measures to be taken to encourage habitat connectivity. The development shall be carried out in strict accordance with the approved details"

With regard to the pre-commencement condition detailed above, we would submit the following information:

Mobile species which are able to fly or climb are unlikely to be prevented from dispersing across the site and through gardens by the boundary treatments. Terrestrial based species may be blocked by boundary treatments. The largest species of note which may use the surrounding habitats and would benefit from access to gardens is the hedgehog.

Hedgehogs travel around one mile every night through our parks and gardens in their quest to find enough food and a mate.

We now know that one of the main reasons why hedgehogs are declining in Britain is because our fences and walls are becoming more and more secure, reducing the amount of land available to them.





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'Hedgehog Highways'

13cm by 13cm is sufficient for any hedgehog to pass through. This will be too small for nearly all pets. These gaps should be created to any hard boundary features on the site boundary and between plots which would link them together.

At the Chipping House Residential Development site a significant area of boundary planting is proposed, along with the retention of woodland. There is excellent connectively around these areas. Boundary treatments to the houses need to be secure, hence "hedgehog highways" will be created to allow access from the boundary areas to gardens but still maintain garden security.

It is proposed a "hedgehog highway" is installed into boundary fences in plots 4-5, 6-12 and 20-32. These should link each garden and the boundary planting creating a larger interconnected area.

13cm x 13cm holes may be cut into the concrete base of the fences as shown on Figure 1.







Figure 1- Example of hedgehog highways

1:20 scale plans for the boundary fences are shown Figure 2 and 3. These include a 13cm x 13cm gap at their base.

All levels and dimensions must be checked on site by contractor prior to commencement of works. Any variations must be reported to Millson Associates Ltd.

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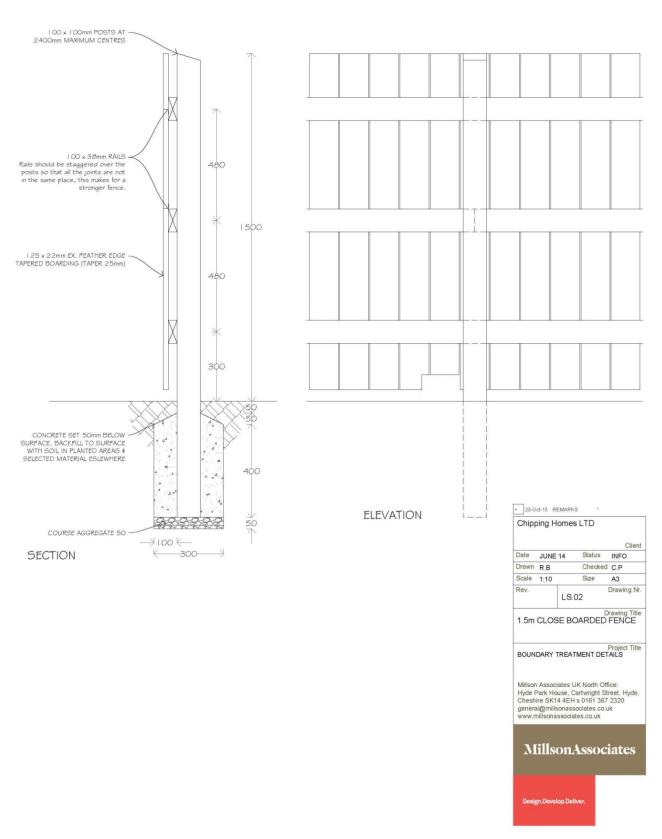


Figure 2- 1.5m fence

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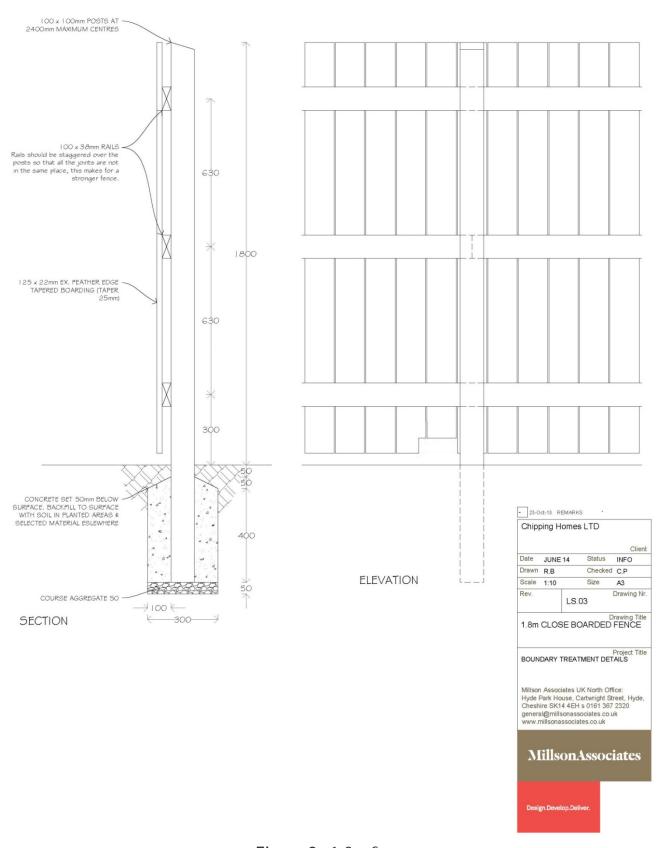


Figure 3- 1.8m fence

The 13cm x 13cm holes would also provide access to the gardens by species such as reptiles, amphibians and small and medium size mammals.

The guidance note attached will be provided in the homeowner pack to prevent the gaps being blocked up.

Yours Sincerely

Andrew Gardner BSc (Hons), MSc, MCIEEM, MRICS, CENV, DIP NDEA

Director Envirotech

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