

**Project – The Fox, 39 Church Street, Twickenham**

**Date – 20/12/2024**

**External Wall Repair Method Statement**

**Prepared by: Jarlath Mitchell, Health & Safety Manager, NPC**

This method statement has been prepared for London Borough of Richmond upon Thames as requested in the Planning Reference number 24/2663/LBC Decision Notice dated 17<sup>th</sup> December 2024.

The request is for a detailed system of works for the dismantling and reassembly of the wall, as well as storage of reclaimed bricks and specification of the bond and mortar to be used.

This statement should be read in conjunction with Pembroke Design & Project Management drawing reference: 3442-01 & 3442-02.

**Methodology**

The area on both sides of the boundary wall shall be secluded by Heras Fencing and only operatives working on the wall will be allowed within the site area.

All existing planters and their contents will be removed by shovel and barrow to a skip located outside the rear door of the beer garden.

Sheets of marine ply will be laid on the exposed ground which will be capable of supporting moveable platforms from which to work from.

Brickworks are to be removed singularly using chisel and hammer on the old mortar joints between bricks. Each brick will be lifted off the wall and carefully removed by hand. This will minimise the risk of instability as removal progresses. They will be handed down to a waiting operative who will take the brickworks to the covered area on the right-hand side of the beer garden.

Where it is necessary to remove dense, strong mortar, it shall be cut out using a plugging or a claw chisel.

Each brick will be cleaned, sorted and stacked on pallets and protect from the elements for re-use with a polythene cover.

This process will continue layer by layer until the full section of wall is removed down at ground level.

Any broken or damaged brick will be disregarded and skipped.

The existing foundation will be excavated and removed to the skip.

As the new wall thickness is proposed to be constructed to a 330mm dimension a new concrete foundation will be poured to accommodate the proposed new wall. As recommended in the Structural Report by KTA Structures dated 23<sup>rd</sup> July 2022 the foundations should be at least 525mm in width and founded at approximately 500mm from ground level, in good firm ground, with a minimum concrete thickness of 275mm.

Prior to the commencement of constructing the new brick wall and based on the expectation that over 30% of the existing brick will not be suitable for reuse, any new brickwork is to match the existing stock.

To tie the brick wall for the proposed rebuild into an existing wall, the "toothing out," method will be applied by removing alternating bricks from the existing wall to create a row of "teeth" that the new bricks can interlock with to form a strong bond between the old and new masonry. Where the "toothing out," method is found to be unsuitable wall starters fixed to the existing wall to accept both the inner and outer leaf of the new wall will be used.

In addition, wall ties will be set at a minimum of 50mm into both masonry leaves at a rate of 2/3 wall ties per square meter.

As the new wall is being constructed both a mix of new and old bricks in the most appropriate ratio will be used to ensure that the proposed development is in keeping with the existing building and does not prejudice the appearance of the locality.

A cement mixer will be used to achieve the better mortar mix result. The mix will be in the ration of 4:1 sand to cement. If considered suitable lime can be added to the mix. Water will be added to achieve a consistency of mortar to be wet and thin. The mortar will be used in thin layers of 1cm approx.

All incomplete brickwork will be covered in polythene sheet and hessian at the end of each day to protect from the elements and to seek to avoid efflorescence.