



## Gravel-filled porous car parking

Project: Alrewas, Staffordshire  
 Client: National Memorial Arboretum  
 Main Contractor: Stepnell Ltd  
 Sub-Contractor (Ground works): Tim Bates Plant Hire of Burton on Trent  
 Product(s): BODPAVE™ 85 Porous pavers



### CLIENT

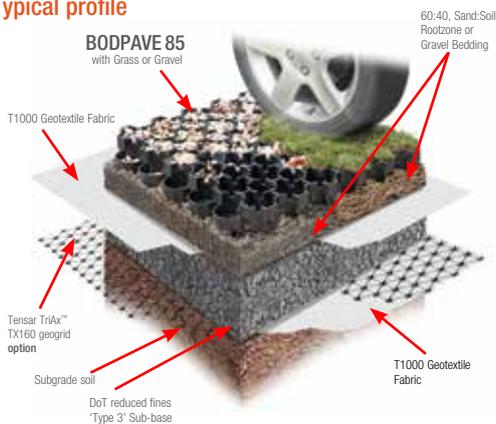
Founded in 1997 and opened to the public in 2001, the National Memorial Arboretum (NMA) is the UK's centre for remembrance. Some 30,000 trees and more than 300 memorials stretch across 150 acres, recognising service and sacrifice from groups including the military, police and charities. The site, in Alrewas, Staffordshire, welcomes around 300,000 visitors a year including politicians and royalty.

### APPLICATION FUNCTION

Surface stabilisation of a porous gravel layer as part of a sustainable drainage solution. BODPAVE™ 85 grids are filled with gravel, which provide a highly rainwater-permeable surface and a reinforced platform suitable for supporting vehicle loads. Underneath, a thick layer of coarse-graded aggregate offers further water storage and a sound structural base.



### Typical profile



Not all layers will apply to every application and drainage may be required. Please refer to design guidance documents.





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### PROJECT

In 2015, work began on the NMA's new £15.7 million Remembrance Centre to include a learning centre, exhibition spaces, café and retail area. In 2016, Rugby-based contractor Stepnell completed the project and major improvements to the existing facilities. As part of this, work was needed on the car parking bays in the main car park.

### SOLUTION

BODPAVE™85 porous plastic paving system – 3,000 sqm - was installed in the main car park by sub-contractor Tim Bates Plant Hire of Burton on Trent. The product was specified by landscape architect, FIRA, working on behalf of Glenn Howells Architects, balancing a cost-effective sustainable drainage system with high

aesthetic appeal. Made in the UK from 100% recycled HDPE, BODPAVE™85 is highly sustainable with a low carbon footprint compared to more traditional methods of car park construction.

### RESULT

BODPAVE™85 provided a cost-effective, sustainable, porous drainage system robust enough to support the weight of parked cars and stabilising the surface layer of architectural gravel.



*Gary Dimmack, contracts manager for Tim Bates Plant Hire, said:*

*"The BODPAVE™85 units are very robust, making the task of achieving good line and level very easy. They are extremely lightweight and easy to handle yet once installed they are very rigid particularly when filled with gravel."*

*He added: "We intend to use BODPAVE units again on the next suitable project and would certainly recommend them for similar schemes."*