

From: Andrew.Clout <Andrew.Clout@horsham.gov.uk>
Sent: 14 January 2025 11:18:50 UTC+00:00
To: "Stephanie.Bryant" <Stephanie.Bryant@horsham.gov.uk>
Subject: RE: DC-24--1538 - Land to the South of Furners Lane, Henfield (re-consult)

Hi Steph,

I would concur with the view that Andy B gave when he visited the site at the request of the applicants arboriculturist prior to the application being made, that extent of root severance required to implement the road position is unlikely to have a significant impact/deterioration on the trees health.

This is of course an inexact science and our judgement in this respect is made using our knowledge and experience of tree physiology and engineering operations undertaken over our working lifetime in the field. With a comparatively rare tree that is potentially several centuries old, ultimately we are guessing to some extent in this respect. As highlighted, there will IMO be some fibrous/small diameter roots of the tree concerned encountered/damaged at the proximity proposed.

The design standard for engineering near trees (BS5837) currently caps all minimum recommended root protection areas, regardless of tree size, at 707m² (15m radially from tree stem if no constraints on rooting are present). On this basis, it would appear reasonable to allow excavation works at 20m+ from a tree stem.

However, latest science recognises that big old trees are sensitive to changes to their rooting environment, hence the NPPF requirement for larger minimum buffers which will in all likelihood be reflected in the revised BS5837 later this year.

In terms of compensation, as the intention is to create an enlarged urban area with the tree enclosed within it, I believe that the LPA should be seeking to strictly control the remaining soft ground area around the trees in accordance with the standing advice in this respect. This may be somewhat at odds with the developers ideal of what a neat new urban development should look like to sell houses and perhaps it is an unachievable ideal, in which case perhaps a re-design of the entire plot is required.....

Regards

Andy

Andrew Clout

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From: Stephanie.Bryant <Stephanie.Bryant@horsham.gov.uk>

Sent: 09 January 2025 11:33

To: Andrew.Clout <Andrew.Clout@horsham.gov.uk>

Cc: Trees <trees@horsham.gov.uk>

Subject: RE: DC-24--1538 - Land to the South of Furners Lane, Henfield (re-consult)

Hi Andy,

Thank you for this and the discussion yesterday.

I've had a chat with Adrian and to move forward I need to understand if the incursion into the veteran tree RPA would result in a deterioration of the tree. I'm not sure if this relates to a specific 'tree' definition but my general understanding is that this would relate to the longevity, life and health of the tree. Based on our discussion, while there would be an impact, you suggested this wouldn't have a significant long term impact or that the tree would significantly suffer so I'm thinking this may also mean a no on deterioration?

Where you would consider it to be a deterioration, I would then need to understand from you whether the proposed compensation is suitable?

Please let me know your thoughts over a call when you're next in.

Many thanks,
Steph

Stephanie Bryant

Senior Planning Officer

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From: Andrew.Clout <Andrew.Clout@horsham.gov.uk>

Sent: Tuesday, January 7, 2025 1:42 PM

To: Stephanie.Bryant <Stephanie.Bryant@horsham.gov.uk>

Cc: Trees <trees@horsham.gov.uk>

Subject: DC-24--1538 - Land to the South of Furners Lane, Henfield (re-consult)

Hi Steph,

Happy New Year.

Please find latest consultation form attached as requested.

Regards

Andy

Andrew Clout

Assistant Arboricultural Officer

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