



HORSHAM DISTRICT COUNCIL CONSULTATION

TO:	Horsham District Council – Planning Dept
LOCATION:	Oakfield Cox Green Rudgwick
DESCRIPTION:	Approval of details reserved by condition 8, 9,10,11,12 and 13 to approved application DC/23/0235
REFERENCE:	DISC/25/0186
RECOMMENDATION:	Advice/Modification
SUMMARY OF COMMENTS & RECOMMENDATION: Concerning Condition 8, as the Landscape Architect has noted in their response. The proposed creation of a wildflower meadow within the Root Protection Area (RPA) of the TPO'd oak tree T30, which is currently exhibiting symptoms consistent with Acute Oak Decline, carries the potential to further compromise condition. The ground preparation, soil disturbance, and ongoing management associated with establishing and maintaining a wildflower meadow would likely disrupt the sensitive root environment, exacerbating stress on the tree, potentially accelerating its decline. Given the tree's vulnerable state and its high visual amenity value within the local landscape, it would be prudent to consider alternative, less invasive landscaping measures within the RPA. Specifically, implementing soil decompaction measures, alongside the application of a substantial organic mulch layer that would help support root function, enhance the soil health, aid with moisture retention, and Mycorrhizal fungi activity, in this area, with the aim of improving long-term vitality of the tree should be considered.	
MAIN COMMENTS: N/A	
ANY RECOMMENDED CONDITIONS: N/A	
NAME:	Andy Bush Arboricultural Officer
DEPARTMENT:	Strategic Planning (Specialist Team)
DATE:	31/07/25