

**From:** Andrew.Clout <Andrew.Clout@horsham.gov.uk>  
**Sent:** 13 May 2026 15:22:56 UTC+01:00  
**To:** "Daniel.Holmes" <Daniel.Holmes@horsham.gov.uk>  
**Cc:** "Trees" <trees@horsham.gov.uk>  
**Subject:** DC-26-0185 - Land on the South West Side of Rowhook Hill, Rowhook

Hi Dan,

The Trees team were consulted on the above application for regularisation of development already undertaken – “Regrading of land levels to form a hardstanding area associated with horticultural use”.

The site was subject of significant tree felling/clearance circa 18 months ago. The FC investigated the initial felling works and presumably issued a licence for felling and re-planting (Ref: 019/3034/2025) to ensure legal compliance and prevent potential deforestation that could be achieved by further small scale felling operations done over an extended period of time. I recommend that you request a copy of the licence from the applicant if it is considered to be pertinent to the use of the land and existing constraint thereon.

Observations from external to the site and from available mapping/aerial photography indicate that the main area of the site was a conifer plantation with some pole stage deciduous trees in places. The section of retained woodland closest to the road and along the boundary of the neighbouring property is likely much older and has significant amounts of hornbeam present, indicative of former indigenous woodland on the prevailing clay soil type.

Whilst I was not able to access the site I would not be unduly concerned in respect of damage to remaining trees from any additional works associated with the change of use for horticulture in close proximity to the main area of disturbance. However, if your own on site observations indicate very large/potential veteran trees within 15-20m of the red line area of proposed development, please ask us to arrange access to the site to assess under the NPPF guidelines in this respect.

Thanks and regards

Andy

**Andrew Clout**

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