



HORSHAM DISTRICT COUNCIL CONSULTATION

TO:	Horsham District Council – Planning Dept
LOCATION:	Woodside Equestrian Centre Forest Road Colgate West Sussex
DESCRIPTION:	Retention of top surface to majority of existing hardcore area and its use for the parking of vehicles in connection with the use of the equestrian centre and re-siting of lorry containers onto historic hardsurfaced area (Retrospective)
REFERENCE:	DC-26-0206
RECOMMENDATION:	Advice

SUMMARY OF COMMENTS & RECOMMENDATION:

No tree survey or arboricultural impact assessment has been submitted with the application.

From my observations, the majority of the mature roadside trees bounding the site are beech (occasional sycamore), likely remnants of former unmanaged/lapsed management of hedge planting.

These trees are very prominent with the local street scene and make an important visual contribution to the sylvan landscape character acting as a buffer to the land beyond.

The area within the site adjacent to the road, where the block plan indicates scalplings and associated structures/caravans are to be removed, would foreseeably result in an improved rooting environment for the mature trees situated along the Northern boundary.

In respect of the former similar application for development (Ref: DC/24/1405), the Tree Officer formerly commented upon the fact that from an arboricultural perspective, the theoretical minimum recommended 15m Ancient woodland (AW) buffer to the designated AW to the north (Spurs Orchard Wood), would partly fall within the site.

However, while this may be the case, due to the location of Forest Road and the longstanding relationship between the AW and the engineered Road to its south, the works at the site will have had no direct impact on the trees within the edge of the AW.

Therefore, in this instance, it would not seem appropriate for this theoretical buffer to be applied in relation to the potential arboricultural impacts of development at the subject site.

MAIN COMMENTS:

N/A

ANY RECOMMENDED CONDITIONS:

N/A

NAME:

Andy Clout - Assistant Arboricultural Officer

DEPARTMENT:

Strategic Planning Specialist Team

DATE:

11/03/26