



HORSHAM DISTRICT COUNCIL CONSULTATION

TO:	Horsham District Council – Planning Dept
LOCATION:	Wood Grange, Henfield Road, Cowfold
DESCRIPTION:	Proposed oak pergola to side elevation
REFERENCE:	DC-26-0374
RECOMMENDATION:	Advice / No Objection
SUMMARY OF COMMENTS & RECOMMENDATION:	
No significant arboricultural concerns	
MAIN COMMENTS:	
The property has formerly been granted permission for an extension off the southern elevation (ref: DC/211270) where the pergola is now proposed. There does not appear to have been any arboricultural input formerly in respect of development in this portion of the garden.	
There is a mature sycamore adjacent to the roadside wall in relatively close proximity to the area of proposed works. The tree is one of the few mature trees that remain along the main thoroughfare into the village and thus proffers significant public amenity value, due to its position and size.	
Inspection of the Sycamore highlights that it is in declining condition due to historic basal wounding and colonisation by aggressive decay pathogens. The tree has a very limited safe useful life expectancy and thus, in this instance, does not pose a significant constraint on potential development of the property.	
If the landscape setting of the development forms part of the application, I recommend that a landscape scheme is procured that includes a tree of minimally 10-15m future height potential to be planted within the frontage portion of the property to off-set the impact of the tree loss.	
The loss of mature trees from this streetscene over time combined with both pressures to remove more and declining health of many that remain, will potentially lead to a significantly denuded treescape to the detriment of the character of the village in the relatively short term. Where possible, the LPA should seek to procure replacement planting.	

ANY RECOMMENDED CONDITIONS:	
See above	
NAME:	ANDY CLOUT – ASST. ARBORICULTURAL OFFICER
DEPARTMENT:	STRATEGIC PLANNING - SPECIALISTS
DATE:	01/04/26