



Sarah O'Brien
Exbury Homes Ltd
Fairview House
2a Osborne View Road
Hill Head
FAREHAM
PO14 3JN

My Ref: D1859AIAL1

15th October 2019

Dear Sarah,

**RE: LAND ADJACENT TO WOODCROFT PRIMARY SCHOOL, WOODCROFT
LANE, WATERLOOVILLE, PO8 9QD
PLANNING APP REF: APP/15/01235**

- 1 **Preliminary matters:** Condition 13 of the above planning permission required the submission and approval of an Arboricultural Impact Assessment and Method Statement (AMS). Condition 6 of the consent required the enclosure with temporary protective fencing of all trees and hedgerows to be retained. Paragraph 6.1 of the submitted AMS said that the '*satisfactory erection of the fencing shall be confirmed in writing to the Council on inspection by a person suitably qualified in arboriculture*'. This letter gives details of the temporary tree protective fencing erected on site. For the purposes of the paragraph 6.1 in the AMS I confirm that I am a person suitably qualified in arboriculture (and see Appendix 1).
- 2 **Site visit:** I made a site visit on 3rd October 2019 and took photographs which are attached at Appendix 1. My observations are set out below.
- 3 **Observations:** I saw that temporary fencing had been installed for all retained trees, either at the places indicated on the tree protection plans or better i.e. further from trees. The fencing I saw was 'Heras' galvanised steel mesh panels securely fixed to driven wooden fence posts. The recommendation in BS5837:2012 is that barriers (temporary tree protective fencing) '*should be fit for the purposes of excluding construction activity*', and that they should be '*maintained to ensure that they remain rigid and complete*'. Although a default specification i.e. using a braced driven scaffold pole framework with securely attached welded mesh panels is recommended in BS5837:2012, this specification is not prescriptive or mandatory. BS5837:2012 makes provisions for alternative specifications in conjunction with the

project arboriculturalist, as long as they provide a level of protection equal to the default scheme. In my opinion, the welded mesh panels securely attached to driven fence posts satisfies the criteria for such fencing and is a sufficient and adequate alternative to the 'default' specification in BS5837:2012. The fencing for trees T1092-1094 is in place and has yet to be secured, pending reasonable access for the permitted pruning by crown raising. Once this has been done, the fencing will be secured in its designated location.

- 4 **Temporary tree protective fencing - confirmation:** The recommendation in BS5837:2012 is that prior to the commencement of other operations, the project arboriculturalist should confirm that barriers have been correctly set out on site. I have seen barriers correctly set out in respect of retained trees.
- 5 **Recommendations:** The installation of the temporary protective fencing has overall been carried out as required, with the final securing of the fencing for trees T1092-1094 to be confirmed by the site manager with photos. The fencing shall be retained until / unless changes are proposed. Details of changes will be submitted to the Council in writing and approved prior to implementation. With no evidence of significant adverse effects on retained trees, and with effective and adequate protection measures in place I recommend that this part of the requirement for fencing and reporting has been satisfied and that the Local Planning Authority be asked to confirm acceptability.

Please call me if you need to discuss any of these points.

Yours sincerely



Jonathan Fulcher DipArb FArborA

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APPENDIX 1

Brief qualifications and experience of Jonathan Fulcher

1. **Qualifications:** I hold the City and Guilds Certificate in Arboriculture, and the Royal Forestry Society's Professional Diploma in Arboriculture, which is one of the premier qualifications within the Arboricultural Profession. I am also a Registered Consultant of the Arboricultural Association.
2. **Practical experience:** I have worked in local government tree management for over twenty years. After cutting my teeth as an arborist at London Borough of Redbridge, I moved to London Borough of Islington where I supervised direct works for three years. I joined New Forest District Council in 1987, where I made and administered Tree Preservation Orders and advised on arboricultural issues relating to planning applications. In 1991, I moved to Poole Borough Council as Senior Arboricultural Officer, leading a small professional team providing a comprehensive arboricultural service to the Council. Duties included arboricultural consultancy on major development proposals, acting as arboricultural witness at Public Inquiries and setting and running tree work contracts. I joined Barrell Treecare as a self-employed arboricultural consultant in March 1998, leaving in early 2003 to become a fully independent consultant. My clients include local and national development companies, schools, public utilities and Local Planning Authorities. From 2003-2008 I was one of a small number of arboricultural consultants appointed by the Department for Communities and Local Government (DCLG) for the determination of Tree Preservation Order application appeals. This function was transferred to the Planning Inspectorate in 2008, when I was appointed as a contracted Inspector for Tree Preservation Order application and High Hedge appeals.
3. **Continuing professional development:** I am a Fellow of the Arboricultural Association by examination, and have served the Association as a member of their Local Authority Committee, including one year as committee chair. I have been co-organiser of national seminars on Tree Strategies and Tree Preservation Order Enforcement, and given papers and chaired sessions at the Association's annual conferences. I have been the interim lead assessor for the Association's Registered Consultants scheme and am currently an assessor for that scheme. I keep professionally current through professional reading, subscription to professional journals and by regular attendance at seminars and conferences.

APPENDIX 2

Photographs



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Photo 4: Fencing for trees 1092 - 1094

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