

1. Four mature Oaks are identified for removal.

(i) One (T4) is located towards the front of the site and individually identifiable from Bartons Road. This is a former/lapse pollard and a significant tree graded at BS:5837 Cat B. Barrell have categorised as C Class.

(ii) Three trees (T7, 8, 10) are set back into the site and are very large spreading specimens that I would estimate at circa 200 years old, heading towards veteran status. All three Oaks are BS:5837 Cat A. Although not identifiable individually from the main road these trees contribute well to the character of the area and produce a positive landscape feature backdrop. Barrell have categorised as B Class.

2. I can not support the removal of these trees on arboricultural grounds and strongly object to their proposed felling as part of this scheme.

3. With regards to the proposed mitigation scheme put forward by Barrel - The following has been tabled:

- Large semi-mature specimen tree (8-10m) species to be agreed, to be planted within a central green on the proposed scheme.
- Four large semi-mature specimen trees (8-10m - Silver Cell construction) to be planted to the front of the site adjacent to Bartons Road.

The mitigation planting appears to be sound and well thought out in principle, I would support this scheme rather than an option to 'cram' smaller less significant trees (of greater number) onto the site.

4. Should the scheme (in any form) be permitted there must be a robust TPP conditioned to protect the surrounding trees on the site.

5. In conclusion there are no justifiable arboricultural reasons to remove the Oaks and in my professional opinion they should be considered constraints for development.

Thanks

Jamie

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