
TO: HBC Planning Services
FROM: Consultee Hampshire County Council
Arboricultural Consultancy
SUBJECT: **Hobby Close Field, PO8 9AY**
DATE: Friday, 07 June 2024
REF: APP/23/01077
YOUR REF:

Dear Case Officer.

1. I have carried out a review of the relevant documents available on the HBC planning portal and provide the following comments. Please note this is as desktop review only, as I have not had instruction for a site visit. In the absence of a site visit I must assume the submitted descriptions and assessments of the trees and the site to be true, fair, and accurate.
2. Documents have been submitted by the client's arboriculturist showing measures that are proposed to prevent damage to retained trees. However, the details given are ambiguous and would be unenforceable.
3. In summary, the plan is to lay a temporary access road through a wooded area and fence between the construction work (Earthworks) and the woodland. Whilst this is acceptable in principle the plans etc submitted do not include sufficient detail as to where the perimeter/ tree protection fencing is to be erected.
4. **Fencing:** To be effective the fencing must be sufficient to prevent access by machinery and to prevent build up or stripping of soil levels within tree root protection areas (RPAs), as calculated in accordance with BS5837:2012. Whilst chestnut fencing is cost effective when works are considerable distance from trees, it would not be considered acceptable where this is along the line of an RPA. Set out distances should be shown on a scale plan from fixed points on the site, such as specific trees, to inform on site set up.
5. **Temporary Access Road:** The cellular confinement system specified in the submitted arboricultural method statement is ideal for this purpose, but it is very important that this is installed using a roll out method, and this should be clearly specified on the plans. The AMS states that the depth of the cells should be 250mm, this is acceptable, but this is contradicted by the submitted, unreferenced, plan showing the cellular confinement concept. As a side note, using Type 1 aggregate to fill the cells would not be acceptable if the road were to be permanent.

In summary, I have no concern regarding the proposal if an acceptable Tree Protection Plan is prepared. If this is not immediately possible, I recommend the following Planning Condition be used to safeguard trees.

'Before any work starts on site, a Tree Protection Plan prepared in accordance with BS 5837:2012 must be submitted to the local planning authority for approval. This must then be adhered to by all site personnel and will be enforced by the LPA. This will include the positions and the design of physical protection methods, that will protect trees from the construction process.'

Wayne Isaacson