

Mr J Walton
Pegasus Group
First Floor South Wing
Equinox North
Great Park Road
Almondsbury
BRISTOL
BS32 4QL

28th January 2022

Our Ref: 18083-Let4-DC

Dear Mr Walton,

Re: Trees, Long Copse Lane, Emsworth, Havant

I write regarding your request that I provide specific comments on trees at the above site following representation made on the current planning application. As you know I prepared a detailed arboricultural impact appraisal and method statement for the scheme (Our reference: 18083-AA7-DC with tree plan 18083-8 dated 6th August 2021). I enclose a revised version of these documents.

I can confirm that the masterplan has no direct impact on the mature oaks along Long Copse Lane. The notional RPAs extend over the existing highway and to the north into the frontage of the application site, which is proposed open space in the masterplan. Representations have suggested these oaks are veterans, so as a precautionary approach, in the revised report the RPAs have been extended to 18 m and the BS 5837 categorisation upgraded to category A (T31, T33, T34, T35, T36, and T37).

The extension of the RPAs makes no difference to the protection of these trees. The widening and drainage works in the road make use of an existing ditch where root systems are not present and there is ample space within the masterplan site area to accommodate the remainder of the RPAs. This is the case with all the mature oaks along Long Copse Lane, i.e., T1, T5 and T30; even though they will fall within the highway as noted by some representations, the proposed works will not harm them. There has been a comprehensive preliminary Highway Design Check which considered the impacts in detail, prior to this planning application.

The tree schedule is now consistent with The Highway Design Check work and identifies the trees that would need to be removed to implement the s278 off site works as agreed with the Highway Authority and with compensation packages agreed where necessary. These are T2 (Monterey pine), G43, T45, T46 (Low category ash), and G54 (low category immature oak, sycamore, and holm oak).

It should be noted that the scheme provides extensive new tree planting to link the boundary trees, hedges and woodland and reinforces the bat corridors. This new planting will significantly increase the longer-term canopy cover of the site and will more than compensate for the value of the low category trees to be removed. Moreover, the ash die back has accelerated and a number



of the ash along Long Copse Lane and within the site and woodland are severely affected. Those affecting the highway would need to be removed irrespective of development proposals.

If you would like further information or clarification, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours sincerely

David Cashman DipArb CUEW FARborA MICFor RCarborA