

Landscape Architect Response

Application No. APP.13.000487

Development: 12 Wittering road.

Case Officer: H. Lealan

Comments by: L. Gilbertson

Date of Comments: 25.06.13

Observation/ Comments:

The site falls within LCA36ii Eastoke and is bounded by LCA37 Black, Sandy and Eastoke Points: the assessment notes: *Relationship to adjacent character areas LCA37 Black, Sandy and Eastoke Points: Generally rear gardens abut this adjacent LCA, with rear garden vegetation along Wittering Road within LCA36ii providing a soft vegetated buffer to the open coastal plain character of LCA37.*

The assessment also notes that in LCA 36ii in areas to the north where, although there is also a lack of street trees, a number of mature trees do exist. These are within the gardens of older properties and within the rear gardens of properties which run down to the northern harbour shoreline, for example along Wittering Road.

Bio-diversity

o This is a largely urban character area with biodiversity interest through gardens and street trees

The retention of mature trees within the site, especially those on the frontage to Wittering road is vital to maintain and enhance the local character. To retain and enhance local biodiversity close to important sites, the retention of established flora especially native species within the site is recommended.

There is no clear landscape plan showing existing and retained planting – this is required to make a judgement on the suitability of the proposal. The ecology report details some of the planting within the site which would be beneficial to retain to support local biodiversity.

No removal of the trees on the frontage appears to be proposed, however the small hedge appears to be shown for removal. A plan to confirm this is required.

Additionally I would like details of any hard landscaping for the site to determine any impact on existing retained planting, and its suitability for the site. If any amendment to the drive area materials including any excavation is proposed it will need to consider the existing frontage trees and boundary planting. The construction vehicles must not compact the tree roots and risk their health-the Arboricultural officer will also advise further.

A hard and soft landscaping plan showing existing and proposed is therefore required.

The Havant Landscape Character Assessment can be found at

<http://www-old.havant.gov.uk/havant-7364>

See the Hampshire Landscape checklist :

<http://www.hiow.gov.uk/offnet/hlg/47340%20Oce%20Checklist.pdf>