

Planning Development Department

Havant Borough Council

Public Service Plaza

Civic Centre Road

Havant

PO9 2AX

24.7.25

For the Attention of David Eaves

Dear Mr Eaves

Re: Land south of Furlonge House, Emsworth House Close, Emsworth PO10 7JR

Your Ref: APP/24/00245

I refer to our previous correspondence concerning the above matter and to the objections that we and many others have raised in relation to this proposed development and its potential impact [REDACTED] 350-year-old oak tree, [REDACTED] abuts immediately onto the proposed building plot. For the avoidance of doubt, nothing in this letter should be construed as our waiving those previous objections.

Mr Gargett, Havant Council's Principal Arboriculturist, agrees that the tree is classified "as a Category A tree due to its condition, value and likely contribution to the local environment and landscape". However, we find it difficult to square that with his raising no objection to the application, given that it includes pruning the lateral canopy by 2.5 metre and raising the western and south western canopy to 6 metres (19.5 ft) from the ground. This is inconsistent with the need to protect the tree's contribution to the local landscape and amenity.

Given the apparent conflict in his position, we would ask that this matter goes before the whole Planning Committee. The Committee should be made aware of the significant number of objections submitted in relation to the tree, as well as the impact on parking in a narrow road and the need for emergency vehicle access to Emsworth House Close.

Should the Planning Committee / Planning Development Department be minded to approve the Application, we would ask you to note the contents of Mr Gargett, in his letter to you dated 27 May 2025 and make it a condition of the permission to proceed with the development that:

"the measures and recommendations set out in the submitted AIA are fully adhered to. Should planning permission be granted that a condition be imposed to ensure compliance with the AIA throughout all stages of development.

The development should only be carried out in accordance with the Arboricultural Impact Appraisal and Preliminary Arboricultural Method Statement (Reference Q0367\EmsworthHouseClose\TPP_V3 2024) and British Standard BS5837: 2012 (Trees in relation to design, demolition and construction - Recommendations)".

Mr Gargett noted that such Conditions were essential so as to ensure the continuity of amenity value afforded by the tree and in accordance with policies CS16 and DM8 of the Havant Borough Core Strategy (2011) and the National Planning Policy Framework.

The Planning Committee may also be interested to learn that PG. Wodehouse lived at 6 Record Road between 1904 – 1914. The Committee may share our disappointment that an amenity enjoyed by Mr Wodehouse over a hundred years ago is potentially being put at risk through the development of the land immediately adjacent to the tree.

Would you please confirm your receipt of this letter which we would ask that you put before the Planning Committee.

Many thanks

Yours sincerely

