

Field House
The Thatchway
Angmering
West Sussex
BN16 4HJ

Development Control
Arun District Council
The Arun Civic Centre
Maltravers Road
Littlehampton
West Sussex
BN17 5LF

4th July 2018

Dear Sir / Madam,

APPLICATION: A/73/18/TC
FELL 45 No. WESTERN RED CEDAR TREES WITHIN THE ANGMERING
CONSERVATION AREA
ST MARGARET'S CHURCH ARUNDEL ROAD, ANGMERING

I wish to most strongly OBJECT to the felling of the above-mentioned 45 Western Red Cedar Trees which are absolutely vital to the centre of Angmering and am amazed that such a measure could be considered to these beautiful evergreen trees that so enhance the churchyard – that also hosts the oldest tree (a Yew) in Arun that pre-dates Henry VIII.

A disappointingly small number of trees have been planted in England in the past year – official figures show. There is growing evidence of the importance of trees in tackling our pollution, improving water quality and aiding natural flood management (particularly in view of the 800 houses shortly to be constructed in Angmering), not to mention what they offer for wildlife.

These trees are part of the heritage of Angmering, and were probably first planted as the result of many small and sacrificial gifts by a large number of parishioners. Recently speaking to one lady, who's son's grave lies close to one of the trees, was truly shocked and dismayed to hear of the plans to fell the trees.

I understand Angmering Parish Council, a statutory consultee, is reserving giving their stated opinion until more information is known – as stated at their meeting on 26th June.

Information is to be provided by a Report from Mr Richard Martin, Arborist for Arun D. C. It has also been requested of Mr Martin that he urgently considers placing Tree Preservation Orders on these 45 Western Red Cedars to provide them the protection they so shockingly need. I reside in The Thatchway and 2 ordinary trees on my plot (a sycamore and oak) are both protected by Tree Preservation Orders.

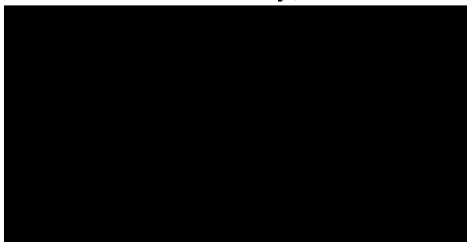
A number of Red Cedars border the stream that runs through Angmering – running parallel with Station Road and acting as a wind break and a beautiful year-round evergreen backdrop screen to the Village Hall etc., along Station Road and also viewed from The Thatchway. A replacement hedge would be a very poor substitute for these magnificent trees.

Last, but certainly far from least, it has to be stated that the Department of the Environment, at least annually, inspects the stream that runs south along the boundary of the churchyard, (of which the trees border) and the Medical Centre, and other properties further north/south from the risk of flooding (particularly in view of the additional planned dwellings for Angmering) – trees much help to prevent soil erosion and mitigate flooding risk.

The Department of the Environment must not only give their considered opinion in this matter, but far more importantly, the loss to a vital wild-life habitat. In this regard it should be stated that VOLES – a protected and rare species – that I understand have spread from Arundel Wildlife Centre over recent years, have honeycombed their burrows in the banks all along this stream – and it would be catastrophic and more import legally – unlawful – to ruin their habitat. The Department of the Environment must be consulted in this respect as they are in full knowledge of these voles and monitor their habitat annually.

Please reject this Application for the felling of these 45 healthy, vigorous, and beautiful evergreen trees in their prime and essential to not de-nude this part of Angmering of its greenery.

Yours faithfully,



J M Gibson FRICS