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**CHARTERED
TOWN PLANNER**

Planning and Building Control Division
Arun District Council
Maltravers Street
Littlehampton
BN17 5LF

Friday, 27 May 2011

Dear Sir/Madam:

Re: Fox Rough, Shelden Lane, Patching

**Proposed Saw Mill Compound Area and Saw Mill Building -
Alternative to A/58/11/AG**

I enclose a PNO application for a proposed saw mill compound with a lean-to structure within, all located within the above woodland area.

This application is submitted as an alternative to that which can be constructed under A/58/11/AG. That PNO permits a compound and building detached from the first building - the machinery building - permitted under A/39/11/AG.

However after further consideration it has been concluded that it makes more operational sense to undertake all activities within a single, secure, area. Hence this application.

The site owners have a Forestry Management Plan and felling licence approved by the Forestry Commission to regenerate this oak woodland with new ash coppice in seven new cants along with new tracks and glades - all in order that its biodiversity can be enhance and so that a commercial forestry operation can be sustained.

An integral part of this biodiversity enhancement is the felling of timber on a regular basis. In order to minimise the size of timber sent out from the woodland and to enable the enhancement of the value of the timber by processing it on site it is necessary to have a saw mill working on the land.

For health and safety reasons as well as to prevent theft, the saw mill will be located within a secure compound. The compound itself will be enclosed by 3m high timber fencing - it will be this high for security purposes.

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The saw mill compound area is reasonably necessary for the business which commenced in 2010 and I attach a copy of the approved management plan for your information. It will first mill oak felled on the land and then once the woodland is in Ash rotation, it will cut and mill the Ash – all as part of the management plan.

The compound, and the building within it is to be sited towards the front of the site since this is the most functional appropriate location for the saw mill compound - the best location to facilitate effective forestry management.

The second barn will be used for the milling of timber and will house the saw mill as well as cut timber which needs to be kept under cover. It will measure 21 x 11m with an eaves height of 4m and an overall height to ridge of 6.3m

There will be double gates located on the east and west sides which will connect the existing trackway.

The applicants are working very closely with the Forestry Commission in order to bring this area of woodland back into viable production and to balance this with an enhanced biodiversity value of the area.

In my professional opinion both the building within and the saw mill compound are clearly reasonably necessary for the purposes of forestry on this area of woodland.

Yours sincerely,



STEPHEN JUPP

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Chartered Town Planner