

Planning Officer: ? Harding

Planning Application Ref: BE/65/17/EIS

Location: Land to the west of **Bersted Road**

Description of works: Scoping Opinion required on development potential

Comments On Application:

- This site is essentially under agricultural cultivation at the present time with tree and hedgerow plants forming the boundaries to fields – these are significant features in the landscape of high amenity value.
- The species mix is mainly Hawthorn; Field Maple; Blackthorn and Pedunculate Oaks.
- The Oaks are the most valuable species as they are almost all young to semi-mature trees with potential to form the landscape of the future.
- There are also - from what I could see from points of public access - some decent maturing Oaks that would merit a TPO.

Recommendations:

- **IF** this site is considered suitable for development then it should be placed on a list for fairly urgent detailed inspection for the purpose of identifying important trees that merit a TPO - BEFORE they are removed as they currently have no protection and a prospective developer could remove them to make way for house and access points where trees might otherwise be a constraint.
- If they are going to come back in with a formal planning application then it will need to be accompanied by a Topographical Plan onto which all tree and hedges have been plotted and surveyed in accordance with BS5837:2012 recommendations – which will in the first instance be a Tree Survey Schedule; a Root Protection Area Schedule and a Tree Constraints Plan illustrating RPA's.

Bernie Harverson

Consultant Arboriculturist