

Hebe Smith

From: Maria Tomalova
Sent: 15 December 2022 11:20
To: Planning.Responses
Subject: FW: BN/65/22/PL - Land at rear of Cedar End, Eastergate
Attachments: 1.jpg; 2.jpg

Please upload the below and the attached to the above application.

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From: Mark Warwick <Mark.Warwick@arun.gov.uk>
Sent: 15 December 2022 11:08
To: Maria Tomalova <Maria.Tomalova@arun.gov.uk>
Cc: Planning <Planning@arun.gov.uk>
Subject: BN/65/22/PL - Land at rear of Cedar End, Eastergate

Maria

I visited site yesterday afternoon. Owner/occupier (Mary) and contractor foreman (Kevin) in attendance.

No Tree Protection Fencing or Ground Protection has been brought to site.

Work is underway installing a boundary fence (6' close board panels, concrete posts and gravel boards) around the Cedar End plot in advance of the main construction phase. Demolition of one outbuilding (nearest the existing dwelling) has already occurred, this sat upon hard surfacing and with no obvious implication for off-site trees.

A mini digger (tracked vehicle) has been operating within RPAs of TG2 & TG5, currently being used with an auger to create post holes. This has occurred over soft ground leading to some minor compaction. Provided such activity does not recur, there ought not to be any significant impact on off-site trees. I have a verbal assurance from Kevin that this activity will cease from midday today and that the digger will be driven off-site without impacting any RPA further. The line of fence (and de-facto edge of to-be-constructed driveway serving new property to the rear) is the pink marker pegs and spray marking.

In summary, the activity whilst undesirable should only have minor implications for off-site trees and I am reasonably reassured that no further harmful activity will occur during installation of the new boundary fence. Worth noting that the Arboricultural Method Statement (AMS) promotes hand-digging of post holes (para. 3.5.3) and that all demolition is to occur under arboricultural supervision (para. 3.9.5).

I suppose the question is whether that activity constitutes a breach of condition. It seems to me that it does, as the new boundary with fence is shown on the 'Proposed Site Plan 0207 PO3' – an approved document.

My recommendation is that the applicant and agent be notified of this breach and their failure to comply with elements of the AMS. Not a good start and does not inspire confidence.

The next stage of work should be approved tree and shrub clearance followed by installation of Tree Protection Measures. I would like to see evidence of their project arboriculturist having attended site (Appendix 4, para 4) as soon as that protective work has been initiated.

Regards,

Mark Warwick
Tree Officer, Environment and Climate Change

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