

Planning Officer: Michael Eastham

Planning Application Ref: **FP/103/19/PL**

Location: **Land North of Felpham, Felpham**

Description of works: **Amendment to Planning Reference Y/68/09 to replace sports pitch with a public amenity area**

Comments on Application:

- There are significant trees either on or overlapping the site, many of which enjoy statutory protection (Tree Preservation Order FP/1/07) and could be adversely affected by these proposals. There is no supporting arboricultural information submitted with the application - a requirement of BS5837:2012. As such, were this application to now proceed, we will not have sufficient information to guarantee such trees would be adequately respected and protected.
- Although I can support the principle of development as described, I am particularly concerned about the possibility of ground level-changes/preparation and soil treatments within the root protection area of retained trees, and any facilitation pruning which may be required. These issues must be among those addressed within the project arboriculturist's impact assessment and method statement (AMS).

Recommendations:

1. The applicants will need to employ the services of an Arboricultural Consultant to carry out a tree survey exercise and then prepare an Arboricultural Impact Assessment (AIA) which must be inclusive of; a 'Tree Survey Schedule', a 'Root Protection Area (RPA) Schedule' and a 'Tree Constraints Plan' – with the trees accurately plotted on same.
2. In the event that a RPA of any tree which is proposed for retention overlaps the development then BS5837:2012 requires that the Detailed Planning Application is accompanied by an Arboricultural Method Statement (AMS) and also most importantly a Tree Protection Plan – to both describe and illustrate the mitigation measures which are to be employed to ensure that the trees survive without detriment to their vigour and vitality and are given adequate protection both above and below ground.

Conclusion:

- As it stands, I have to lodge an **OBJECTION** to these proposals.

Mark Warwick
Tree Officer / Parks and Greenspace Team