

**Planning Officer:** Michael Eastham

**Planning Application Ref:** LU/334/18/PL

**Location:** Worthing Road Allotments, Worthing Road, Littlehampton, BN17 6JQ

**Description of works:** Extension to existing allotment site

**Comments on Application:**

- The applicants have employed the **Barrell Tree Consultancy** to prepare an Arboricultural Assessment & Method Statement along with a Tree Protection Plan for this project.
- The Tree Survey data is comprehensive and accords with the requirements of BS5837:2012. I am in agreement with the retention category ratings for on and off-site trees.
- Those trees within the site are confined to the perimeter and while of important screening value and some habitat importance, they are individually mostly of limited value so as not to be a complicating factor. That said, it is reassuring to see that they have been afforded adequate group protection and will undoubtedly add value to the development.

**Conclusions:**

- The arboricultural survey information and associated documents/plans provided demonstrate adequate regard and respect for the tree population at and immediately around the site.
- There are no arboricultural grounds for refusal of this proposed development.

**Recommendations:**

- I am able to support the application, subject to the following conditions being applied:
  - All activity at the site is to be carried out in strict accordance with: - **Arboricultural Assessment & Method Statement Ref: 18258-AA-PB – Jul. 18, Barrell Tree Consultancy.**
  - Before the site is occupied or any machinery is introduced to the site or demolition work or construction work or alterations to existing ground levels takes place a **PRE-COMMENCEMENT Site Meeting** is to take place between the Arun DC Tree Officer and the Arboricultural Expert representing the site owners – at this meeting all protective fencing will be inspected to verify it is 'Fit for Purpose' as required under British Standard 5837:2012 and have been erected and positioned exactly as shown on the **Tree Protection Plan Ref: 18258-BT1 Barrell Tree Consultancy.**
  - If there is deemed to be a need for any Utility Service Route connections to bisect retained tree Root Protection Areas/Zones then prior to their installation a Method Statement prepared by an Arboricultural Expert must be submitted that stipulates how this can be achieved without adverse impact on tree roots. Written approval and confirmation of acceptance of this Methodology must be issued before any works are commenced out on site.

**Reasons:** To comply with BS5837 and to ensure that retained trees are afforded due respect and appropriate levels of protection such that their ongoing health and vitality is not compromised and they can continue to enhance the landscape and amenity of the area.

Mark Warwick

Tree Officer / Parks and Greenspace Team