

ARBORICULTURALIST

Sue in Leeson

From: Ian Brewster
Sent: 31 May 2011 11:14
To: Susan Leeson
Subject: FW: WA/37/11/ Land Adjacent to Walberton Village Hall The Street Walberton BN18 0PQ

Dear Sue,

the development proposes the loss of the large Poplar tree identified by the tree consultant as a Downy Black Poplar.

These trees are rare in Sussex, here is a link to explain more about this particular species:

<http://www.british-trees.com/treeguide/poplars/nhmsys0000461971.htm>

In accordance with BS5837 the tree has been identified by the tree consultant as a category A, which describes the following:

- i) A tree of high quality and value, in a condition that is able to make a substantial contribution, with a minimum remaining expected life span of 40years.
- ii) A tree which is a particularly good example of its species, especially if rare or unusual.

With regard to amenity the tree can clearly be seen from the public recreation ground located to the east. It is one of the tallest trees and according to the ecological consultant has bat potential. The tree is native and is attractive to insects, their larvae and would provide a good foraging tree for bats on the wing.

The tree is a Poplar growing from a clay soil. In accordance with National House Building Council's Recommendations this is a high water demanding species and has the potential to exacerbate shrinkage/expansion of clay soils. The NHBC recommend deep and special foundations for built structures within the tree's zone of influence to counteract heave once the tree has been felled. This needs to be investigated by the developer and accepted by the Planning Officer/Building Control Officer.

The tree provides good amenity and should be retained. However compensatory planting for its loss should be considered as part of the proposal. It would be appropriate to plant with same species at sufficient distance from the new build. A line of Downy Black Poplar located 3m to the east of the footpath within the recreation ground is suggested.

Yours sincerely

Ian Brewster

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