



# Memo.

**Date:** 8<sup>th</sup> September 2010

**To:** Planning

**Cc:** -

**From:** Miriam Hill

**Subject:** S6/2010/1710/FP – Land at Georges Field, Hatfield Park

**Formation of visitor parking area, paths, landscaping and ancillary works at land adjacent to Georges Field. Removal of car park north of Hatfield House and provision of soft landscaping**

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I have reviewed the above application and refer to the Landscape Statement dated 21<sup>st</sup> July 2010, site plan 843/GC/002C and proposed 843-003.

I can understand the desire to move the car park from the front of the house. What should be one of the 'every visitor photograph locations' is marred by a car park. Overall I have no arboricultural or landscape objections, should further, more detailed information be submitted.

No Arboricultural Impact Assessment including a full tree schedule with proposed pruning works, felling and root protection details were included with the application. The mature trees on site and in particular the belt of trees which separate the coach and proposed car park will be especially valuable to screen both the estate from the railway, car garage and A1000 and vice versa. This issue has been broadly referred to in the Landscape Statement but not in sufficient detail. This issue needs to be resolved before works start on site. The document should comply with BS5837:2005 Trees in Relation to Construction and will be very similar to the document previously used for the coach park.

The area which will be the new car park needs to have a carefully considered landscape

plan. As this area is overlooked by numerous houses and a care home. Overall I think the layout gives a nice balance of trees to hard standing and the scattered effect aids solar shading. I would have expected to see a little more landscaping between the car park and the rear of 1-13 (odds) Church Street, including hall and St Audrey's Care Home. These are the people who are going to be effected most by noise, fumes etc. The Landscape Statement outlines some of the suggested planting species. These are quite reasonable, though rowan does not thrive in this Borough and are best avoided in managed areas. I would also query why white poplar is to be used as a screening tree in this particular location.

The area to the front of the house which is currently a car park is to be re-landscaped with a water feature and tree planting. It would be appropriate to request some further details about the proposed landscaping. As the new scheme is not particularly overlooked it can concentrate wholly on style and design to complement the house and wow the visitors.

In summary, overall I do not have objections to the proposal however more information is required. Before works start on site an Arboricultural Impact Assessment must be submitted for approval. Landscaping details need to be submitted for approval for both current and proposed car parks. These should be detailed plans with a planting schedule including planting densities, size of planting material, species etc.

I hope that these comments are clear and that if you need anything further then please contact me.