Rachel Legood

From: Miriam Hill

Sent: 29 June 2017 10:37
To: David Elmore
Cc: Planning

Subject: 6/2017/1079/FULL: 37 Lambs Close Cuffley Potters Bar EN6 4HD

Arboriculture: No Arboricultural Method Statement nor Tree Protection Plan submitted. There are TPO'd trees adjacent to this site whose RPA extends into the site.

Soft Landscaping: The main pitch of this application is the 'living-wall building'. No information has been given as to the method of green wall provision or the style and appearance of this. Living walls is a term which covers any method of applying plants to a wall.

Living walls require considerable maintenance like any other garden and can be expensive to maintain. Regular maintenance such as weeding and restocking failing plants as per any garden but also daily or twice daily irrigation and monitoring of equipment. This is often at height or in this location ladder work.

In managing expectations about what these living-walls may look like I would caution against the style pictures noted in the appendix. These are from other countries (some tropical), are promotional pictures (i.e. at their peak and maintained for the photo shoot), use a variety of instillation methods to achieve the look and are on buildings which have a collective responsibility for their look i.e. large flats with management companies. It would have been more helpful to include comparative schemes. Living-walls in this region of the Uk, in full sun and managed by private individuals.

I am an advocate for living-walls and believe that this type of scheme is possible and could be successful if the right person moved into the flat. I am concerned that living-walls which are not maintained are an eyesore and this could become a prominent derelict feature in the neighbourhood.

More information is needed before a reasonable decision can be made.

Miriam Hill Tree Officer