

HERTFORDSHIRE ECOLOGY

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Mrs S Smith
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Ask for: Bernie Fleming
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Date: 19 July 2016

Dear Mrs Smith,

S6/2015/1107/FP

**Retention of modified land levels and further land remodelling to agreed contours
Warrenwood Manor, Hornbeam Lane, Brookmans Park, Hatfield AL9 6JF**

Thank you for your letter of 3 June 2016 and for consulting Hertfordshire Ecology on this application; I apologise for the delay with this reply. It is noted that this is, in part, a retrospective planning application and the following comments are made in that context

The application site is situated adjacent to Hornbeam Lane, which is a Local Wildlife Site (LWS) designated for its ancient green lane interest; it supports some fine, ancient, pollarded trees. The LWS could be affected by the movement of large vehicles, dust, pollution, encroachment and so on. However, the development provides a valuable opportunity to provide biodiversity gain via the adoption of an appropriate landscaping plan that enhances the existing interest of the LWS and the local landscape and so meet the expectations of the NPPF.

We do not object but should permission be granted, it is recommended that it is accompanied by the following condition:

“No development shall take place (including demolition, ground works, site clearance etc) until a method statement has been submitted to and approved in writing by the local planning authority. This shall include, but not be limited to, the:

- a) Purpose and nature conservation objectives for the proposed works;
- b) Detailed design(s) and/or working methods necessary to achieve these objectives including measures to prevent damage of the LWS and other protected features and species (such as the type and source of materials used, the provenance of trees etc);
- c) Extent and location of proposed works shown on appropriate scale maps and plans;
- d) Timetable for implementation, demonstrating that works are aligned with the proposed phasing of development;
- e) Persons responsible for implementing the works;
- f) Details of initial aftercare and long-term maintenance;

These works shall be carried out strictly in accordance with the approved details and all features shall be retained in that manner thereafter.

Reason: To pursue no net loss of biodiversity from this development in accordance with the NPPF.

I hope these comments are helpful.

Best wishes,

Bernie Fleming

Ecology Advisor, Hertfordshire Ecology

Providing ecological advice to Hertfordshire's Local Authorities and communities

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