

## WSCC TREE OFFICER response to planning consultation

**Application reference number:** WSCC/032/18/WC

**Location:** Woodbarn Farm, Adversane Lane, Broadford Bridge, Billingshurst, West Sussex, RH14 9ED

**Proposal:** Amendment of Condition 1 of planning permission ref: WSCC/029/17/WC extending the permission by 18 months to enable the completion of phase 4 site retention and restoration

**District:** Horsham District Council

**Grid ref:** 509017 121725

**Date:** 19<sup>th</sup> July 2018

**Summary response:** no objection but note comments below

### **Response:**

If this is an application to just extend the permission granted re WSCC/029/17/WC, it is assumed that nothing else has changed with regard to existing trees, hedgerows, tree protection etc. with regard to the actual site layout, construction, access road etc.

However, I note that site ditch construction details have been submitted. Are these proposed or do they already exist as part of previous applications? If they are proposed, where will they be located? The construction could have a significant impact on existing / retained trees and hedges.

The planning statement has the following at paragraph 2.2:

**Restoration would complete within the first available planting season following retention.** The works would be consistent with the "*Landscape Proposals*" allowing for:

- Tree and Hedgerow Planting: the introduction of young whips and the infilling of existing hedgerows with native variety plants to replace and restore lost vegetation;
- New Wooden Post & Rail Fencing: to be installed with rabbit netting to deter rodents and protect freshly worked soils from damage and disruption;
- Grass Seeding: all areas will be checked prior to seeding within the planting season to ensure weed-free growth. Hand tools shall be used around trees and the seed mix and specification will be designed to return the well site and access track to permanent pasture.

My comments made on application WSCC/032/17/WC noted then that 'the landscaping scheme as required by condition 13 of WSCC/052/12/WC has not established successfully.' It is now 6 years on; the planting should have been completed and successfully established but the current planning statement seems to infer that no planting will take place until the first available planting season, i.e. 2018/19. Please confirm if this is the case and what has happened to the planting that should have been done 5 years ago. The landscape proposals are dated 26/9/2013.