

WSSC COUNTY ARBORICULTURAL OFFICER response to planning consultation following additional information

Application reference number: WSCC/004/20

Location: Evergreen Farm, West Hoathly Road, East Grinstead RH19 4NE

Proposal: Restoration of the former Standen Landfill site with a woodland and pasture landfill cap system

District: Mid Sussex

Grid ref: 539059 136298

Date: 6th May 2021

Summary response: no objection subject to appropriately worded condition requiring full soft landscape details.

Response: The LVIA should be reviewed by a qualified landscape architect but I note that Table 1 identifies adverse impact on the ancient semi-natural woodland.

The landscape plan is outline; further detail is required. All proposed tree planting stock is transplant size so the reference to 'staking trees' can be removed as can the reference to 'golf course grass'. There is no information about individual plant protection or mulching. The reference to 'general seed planting' needs more detail within a full landscape specification. Regarding the wildflower mix – please clarify – is EM3 intended rather than EL3? Ideally the wildflower mix should be sourced locally via the High Weald AONB Unit.

It is not clear what the aftercare / maintenance period is, but it should be at least 5 years. A biosecurity statement is needed regarding the sourcing of all plant material and seed.

Recommended condition:

Soft Landscaping Scheme

No part of the development hereby approved shall be first occupied until a detailed soft landscaping scheme has been submitted to, and approved in advance by, the County Planning Authority. The scheme shall include full details of species, planting sizes, planting spacing, plant protection, tree pits, soil amelioration / improvement, seeding, on-going maintenance provision and compliance with biosecurity regulations. Once approved the scheme shall be implemented in full with all planting carried out in the first planting season (November to February) following the completion of each stage of the development. Any plants which die, are removed or become seriously damaged or diseased within the first five years shall be replaced in the next planting season with others of a similar size and species, unless otherwise agreed in writing with the County Planning Authority.

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