



PLANNING REF: 2609/21/TPO

Address: Bridleway House, Moul Hill, Salcombe. TQ8 8LF

Description: T103: Quercus Ilex - Crown raise to 2.5m from ground level to allow light.

T104: Fagus Sylvatica - Remove to favour Scots Pine.

T711: AcerPseudoplatanus - Remove to favour Beech.

T109: Quercus Ilex - Crown raise to 2.5m from ground for safety reasons.

T110: Acer Pseudoplatanus - Remove to favour adjacent trees.

T114: Quercus Cerris- Crown raise to 3m from ground level to provide clearance.

T115: AcerPseudoplatanus - Crown raise to 3m from ground level to provide clearance.

T116: Acer Pseudoplatanus - Remove for safety reasons.

T145: Acer Pseudoplatanus - Remove Western limb from base due to decay.

T146: Quercus Ilex - Crown raise on West, North & East sides to

30th July 2021

LETTER OF REPRESENTATION FROM THE SOUTH HAMS SOCIETY

The South Hams Society interest

For nearly sixty years, the South Hams Society has been stimulating public interest and care for the beauty, history and character of the South Hams. We encourage high standards of planning and architecture that respect the character of the area. We aim to secure the protection and improvement of the landscape, features of historic interest and public amenity and to promote the conservation of the South Hams as a living, working environment. We take the protection of the South Devon Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB) very seriously and work hard to increase people's knowledge and appreciation of our precious environment. We support the right development - in the right places - and oppose inappropriate development, as we strongly believe to be the case with this application.

In March 2019 the South Hams Society were pleased to support the Woodland Order TPO notice that was served by the SHDC Tree Office. This Order covers an extensive area of woodland that includes the application site.

The Society were informed at the time that the reasons for serving the Order were:

- The trees are presently protected by an area order confirmed in 1958 which leads to potential ambiguity as to which trees are protected and therefore it is not considered in this instance that the original order serves to effectively protect those currently at the address and as a consequence their contribution to public and varied amenities.
- In the interests of preserving the significant public visual amenity benefits of the subject trees which presently serve to add extensive varied amenity benefits as large

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and mature wooded groups to the wider sylvan setting of the area as amplified by the open coastal aspect, woodland size and multiple instances of local medium and long range view receptors.

- To provide clarity to all parties that all trees of all age ranges are protected by the woodland order, thereby allowing the significant public visual and varied amenities as presently contributed by the woodlands to be continued and enhanced in perpetuity.

The South Hams Society are of the opinion that the excessive tree work, and specifically the removal of four mature trees as proposed in the application, will detrimentally erode and degrade the area of woodland and consequently compromise the integrity, purpose and function of the TPO.

The Salcombe Neighbourhood Development Plan implicitly advocates the protection of all existing wooded areas visible from the estuary and the natural characteristics of North and South Sands valleys.

The NDP also places great emphasis on maintaining wildlife corridors.

Protected woodland allows wildlife to flourish and we believe that the proposed tree work will adversely affect the natural habitat that is essentially beneficial to the sustainability and migration of the abundant wildlife.

In the balance of consideration when assessing this application the Society would question how the removal of healthy trees and saplings in Designated Ancient Woodland accords with SHDC having signed up to the Devon Climate Declaration in July 2019 and the statement that :

'In declaring a climate change and biodiversity emergency, SHDC is recognising that urgent action needs to be taken to reduce carbon emissions and protect ecosystems and wildlife'.

The Society considers that strict adherence to this worthy Declaration can only be achieved in this instance by refusing this damaging tree work proposal.

The South Hams Society conclude that any present or future cumulative erosion of the woodland resulting from applications such as this would be a betrayal of future generations and their ability to enjoy the special qualities of this area of precious sylvan amenity.

The South Hams Society respectfully request refusal of this application.

For and on behalf of the South Hams Society.

Richard Howell
Chairman.